IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

68-0157 (9-06) - 3091078 - EI

SHAWN L WILLIAMS

Claimant

APPEAL NO. 08A-UI-03333-LT

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

DES STAFFING SERVICES INC

Employer

OC: 02/17/08 R: 02 Claimant: Respondent (4R)

lowa Code § 96.5(1)j – Voluntary Leaving – Temporary Employment 871 IAC 24.27 – Voluntary Leaving Part Time Employment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The employer filed a timely appeal from the March 28, 2008, reference 02, decision that allowed benefits. After due notice was issued, a telephone conference hearing was held on April 21, 2008. Claimant did not participate. Employer participated through Amy MacGregor.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether claimant quit the employment without good cause attributable to the employer.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having heard the testimony and having reviewed the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant was employed as a part time temporary laborer assigned to Kemin from December 19, 2007 in an ongoing assignment. He stopped reporting for work at the assignment on January 3, 2008 and did not contact DES Staffing again for work until March 2, 2008. Employer's attempts to reach him resulted in a message that claimant's telephone had been disconnected. The administrative record shows that the claimant has not requalified for benefits and the record is unclear as to whether he is otherwise monetarily eligible.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily left his employment without good cause attributable to the employer, but has not requalified and the record is unclear as to whether claimant is otherwise monetarily eligible.

Iowa Code § 96.5-1 provides:

An individual shall be disqualified for benefits:

1. Voluntary quitting. If the individual has left work voluntarily without good cause attributable to the individual's employer, if so found by the department.

Iowa Code § 96.5-1-g provides:

An individual shall be disqualified for benefits:

- 1. Voluntary quitting. If the individual has left work voluntarily without good cause attributable to the individual's employer, if so found by the department. But the individual shall not be disqualified if the department finds that:
- g. The individual left work voluntarily without good cause attributable to the employer under circumstances which did or would disqualify the individual for benefits, except as provided in paragraph "a" of this subsection but, subsequent to the leaving, the individual worked in and was paid wages for insured work equal to ten times the individual's weekly benefit amount, provided the individual is otherwise eligible.

871 IAC 24.27 provides:

Voluntary quit of part-time employment and requalification. An individual who voluntarily quits without good cause part-time employment and has not requalified for benefits following the voluntary quit of part-time employment, yet is otherwise monetarily eligible for benefits based on wages paid by the regular or other base period employers, shall not be disqualified for voluntarily quitting the part-time employment. The individual and the part-time employer which was voluntarily quit shall be notified on the Form 65-5323 or 60-0186, Unemployment Insurance Decision, that benefit payments shall not be made which are based on the wages paid by the part-time employer and benefit charges shall not be assessed against the part-time employer's account; however, once the individual has met the requalification requirements following the voluntary quit without good cause of the part-time employer, the wages paid in the part-time employment shall be available for benefit payment purposes. For benefit charging purposes and as determined by the applicable requalification requirements, the wages paid by the part-time employer shall be transferred to the balancing account.

Iowa Code § 96.5-1-j provides:

An individual shall be disqualified for benefits:

- 1. Voluntary quitting. If the individual has left work voluntarily without good cause attributable to the individual's employer, if so found by the department, but the individual shall not be disqualified if the department finds that:
- j. The individual is a temporary employee of a temporary employment firm who notifies the temporary employment firm of completion of an employment assignment and who seeks reassignment. Failure of the individual to notify the temporary employment firm of completion of an employment assignment within three working days of the completion of each employment assignment under a contract of hire shall be deemed a voluntary quit unless the individual was not advised in writing of the duty to notify the temporary employment firm upon completion of an employment assignment or the individual had good cause for not contacting the temporary employment firm within three working days and notified the firm at the first reasonable opportunity thereafter.

To show that the employee was advised in writing of the notification requirement of this paragraph, the temporary employment firm shall advise the temporary employee by

requiring the temporary employee, at the time of employment with the temporary employment firm, to read and sign a document that provides a clear and concise explanation of the notification requirement and the consequences of a failure to notify. The document shall be separate from any contract of employment and a copy of the signed document shall be provided to the temporary employee.

For the purposes of this paragraph:

- (1) "Temporary employee" means an individual who is employed by a temporary employment firm to provide services to clients to supplement their work force during absences, seasonal workloads, temporary skill or labor market shortages, and for special assignments and projects.
- (2) "Temporary employment firm" means a person engaged in the business of employing temporary employees.

871 IAC 24.26(19) provides:

Voluntary quit with good cause attributable to the employer and separations not considered to be voluntary quits. The following are reasons for a claimant leaving employment with good cause attributable to the employer:

(19) The claimant was employed on a temporary basis for assignment to spot jobs or casual labor work and fulfilled the contract of hire when each of the jobs was completed. An election not to report for a new assignment to work shall not be construed as a voluntary leaving of employment. The issue of a refusal of an offer of suitable work shall be adjudicated when an offer of work is made by the former employer. The provisions of lowa Code § 96.5(3) and rule 24.24(96) are controlling in the determination of suitability of work. However, this subrule shall not apply to substitute school employees who are subject to the provisions of lowa Code § 96.4(5) which denies benefits that are based on service in an educational institution when the individual declines or refuses to accept a new contract or reasonable assurance of continued employment status. Under this circumstance, the substitute school employee shall be considered to have voluntarily quit employment.

Inasmuch as claimant abandoned the part time assignment and failed to contact employer within three working days, the separation is disqualifying. However, the claimant has not requalified for benefits since the separation and may be otherwise monetarily eligible according to base period wages.

DECISION:

The March 28, 2008, reference 02, decision is modified in favor of the appellant. The claimant voluntarily left the part time employment without good cause attributable to the employer and has not requalified for benefits but may be otherwise monetarily eligible after deletion of these wage credits. The account of this employer shall not be charged.

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REMAND: The monetary eligibility issue after the quit of this part time employment (employer account number 294212) as delineated in the findings of fact is remanded to the Claims Section of Iowa Workforce Development for an initial investigation and determination.

Dávon M. Lewis

Dévon M. Lewis Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

dml/css