IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

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

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Claimant

APPEAL NO. 11A-UI-05063-LT

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

WELLS FARGO BANK NA

Employer

OC: 03/13/11

Claimant: Appellant (1)

Iowa Code § 96.5(1) - Voluntary Leaving

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed a timely appeal from the April 7, 2011 (reference 01) decision that denied benefits. After due notice was issued, a telephone conference hearing was held on May 13, 2011. Claimant participated. The employer's witness, Leonard Bundy, was not available at two numbers when the hearing was called and did not participate. The employer was represented by Steven Zaks of Barnett Associates Inc. Employer's Exhibit 1 was admitted to the record.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether claimant voluntarily left the employment with 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 most recently worked full time as a mailroom clerk and was separated from employment on March 7, 2011. His last day of work was February 11, 2011 when employer granted him a leave of absence so he could attempt to arrange for childcare. He was unable to do so and guit his job because of childcare issues. (Employer's Exhibit 1).

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily left the employment without good cause attributable to the employer.

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.

871 IAC 24.25(17) provides:

Voluntary quit without good cause. In general, a voluntary quit means discontinuing the employment because the employee no longer desires to remain in the relationship of an employee with the employer from whom the employee has separated. The employer has the burden of proving that the claimant is disqualified for benefits pursuant to lowa Code § 96.5. However, the claimant has the initial burden to produce evidence that the claimant is not disqualified for benefits in cases involving lowa Code § 96.5, subsection (1), paragraphs "a" through "i," and subsection 10. The following reasons for a voluntary quit shall be presumed to be without good cause attributable to the employer:

(17) The claimant left because of lack of child care.

The claimant has the burden of proving that the voluntary leaving was for good cause attributable to the employer. Iowa Code § 96.6(2).

While claimant's decision to quit may have been based upon good personal reasons it was not a good-cause reason attributable to the employer for leaving the employment. Benefits must be denied.

DECISION:

The April 7, 2011 (reference 01) decision is affirmed. The claimant voluntarily left his employment without good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until such time as he has worked in and been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times his weekly benefit amount, provided he is otherwise eligible.

Dévon M. Lewis Administrative Law Judge	
Decision Dated and Mailed	
dml/css	