IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

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

LUCINDA HAUGH

Claimant

APPEAL NO: 10A-UI-17856-BT

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

DECISION

RYDER INTEGRATED LOGISTICS INC

Employer

OC: 12/20/09

Claimant: Respondent (2/R)

Iowa Code § 96.5-1 - Voluntary Quit Iowa Code § 96.3-7 - Overpayment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Ryder Integrated Logistics, Inc. (employer) appealed an unemployment insurance decision dated December 22, 2010, reference 03, which held that Lucinda Haugh (claimant) was eligible for unemployment insurance benefits. After hearing notices were mailed to the parties' last-known addresses of record, a telephone hearing was held on February 28, 2011. The claimant participated in the hearing. The employer participated through Ellen Heuer, Customer Logistics Coordinator. Employer's Exhibits One through Three were admitted into evidence. Based on the evidence, the arguments of the parties, and the law, the administrative law judge enters the following findings of fact, reasoning and conclusions of law, and decision.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant's voluntary separation from employment qualifies her to receive unemployment insurance benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds that: The claimant was employed as a full-time material handler from April 19, 2010 through November 16, 2010 when she voluntarily quit because she felt she was not properly trained. The position of a material handler encompasses nearly every function within the warehouse. The claimant started out auditing loads in the outbound department which consisted of checking the outbound tags against the supplier label to verify that the material being sent matches the tag.

The claimant was moved to the receiving function of verifying loads on approximately November 1, 2010 which consisted of verifying that the parts listed on a packing slip against a supplier label to ensure that the parts are correctly received. Both job functions are similar and do not have any different physical requirements. The claimant's hours and wages were not changed.

The claimant testified the incoming line went much faster and the parts were bigger. She did not know where the parts had to be placed and she felt she did not have sufficient training for the incoming line so she voluntarily quit. The claimant was frustrated because she went from knowing exactly what she was doing to "knowing nothing at all."

The claimant filed a claim for unemployment insurance benefits effective December 20, 2009 and has received benefits after the separation from employment.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The issue is whether the reasons for the claimant's separation from employment qualify her to receive unemployment insurance benefits.

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(33) 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:

(33) The claimant left because such claimant felt that the job performance was not to the satisfaction of the employer; provided, the employer had not requested the claimant to leave and continued work was available.

The claimant voluntarily quit on November 16, 2010 after less than two weeks on a different auditing line. She felt she was not properly trained to audit the big parts on the incoming line since she had only audited small parts on the outbound line. There were no complaints regarding the claimant's performance and she simply did not give herself sufficient time to learn the new line.

It is the claimant's burden to prove that the voluntary quit was for a good cause that would not disqualify her. Iowa Code § 96.6-2. The claimant has not satisfied that burden. Benefits are denied.

lowa Code § 96.3(7) provides that benefits must be recovered from a claimant who receives benefits and is later determined to be ineligible for benefits, even though the claimant acted in good faith and was not otherwise at fault. The overpayment recovery law was updated in 2008. See lowa Code § 96.3(7)(b). Under the revised law, a claimant will not be required to repay an overpayment of benefits if all of the following factors are met. First, the prior award of benefits must have been made in connection with a decision regarding the claimant's separation from a particular employment. Second, the claimant must not have engaged in fraud or willful

misrepresentation to obtain the benefits or in connection with the Agency's initial decision to award benefits. Third, the employer must not have participated at the initial fact-finding proceeding that resulted in the initial decision to award benefits. If Workforce Development determines there has been an overpayment of benefits, the employer will not be charged for the benefits, regardless of whether the claimant is required to repay the benefits.

Because the claimant has been deemed ineligible for benefits, any benefits the claimant has received could constitute an overpayment. Accordingly, the administrative law judge will remand the matter to the Claims Division for determination of whether there has been an overpayment, the amount of the overpayment, and whether the claimant will have to repay the benefits.

DECISION:

sda/css

The unemployment insurance decision dated December 22, 2010, reference 03, is reversed. The claimant voluntarily left work without good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until she has worked in and has been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times her weekly benefit amount, provided she is otherwise eligible. The matter is remanded to the Claims Section for investigation and determination of the overpayment issue.

Susan D. Ackerman Administrative Law Judge	
Decision Dated and Mailed	