IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

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

MARY GARRETT

Claimant

APPEAL NO. 08A-UI-03493-BT

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

TEMP ASSOCIATES

Employer

OC: 03/09/08 R: 04 Claimant: Appellant (2)

Iowa Code § 96.5-1-j - Voluntary Quit of Temporary Employment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Mary Garrett (claimant) appealed an unemployment insurance decision dated April 8, 2008, reference 02, which held that she was not eligible for unemployment insurance benefits because she voluntarily quit her employment with Temp Associates (employer) without good cause attributable to the employer. After hearing notices were mailed to the parties' last-known addresses of record, a telephone hearing was held on April 23, 2008. The claimant participated in the hearing. The employer participated through Jenny McNeil, Account Manager. Employer's Exhibit One was 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 failed to contact the temporary employment agency within three working days after the completion of her assignment when notified of this requirement at the time of hire?

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 general laborer from September 11, 2007 through December 3, 2007. She was advised at the time of hire that she was required to sign Temp Associates work available log after her assignment ends within three working days. The claimant was notified by the employer on December 3, 2007 that the assignment she had been working at was completed. At the time the employer called the claimant, she asked if there was any available work for her but was told there was not. The claimant went to the employer's office on December 6, 2007 and signed its work available log. The employer considered her to have voluntarily quit because the employer said she did not notify them within three working days of her last assignment.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The issue in this case is whether the reasons for the claimant's separation from employment qualify her to receive unemployment insurance benefits. The claimant is not qualified to receive unemployment insurance benefits if she voluntarily quit without good cause attributable to the employer or if the employer discharged her for work-connected misconduct. See lowa Code §§ 96.5-1 and 96.5-2-a.

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.

An individual who is a temporary employee of a temporary employment firm may be disqualified from receiving unemployment insurance benefits if the individual does not notify the temporary employment firm within three working days after ending a job assignment in an attempt to obtain another job assignment. To be disqualified from receiving benefits, at the time of hire the employer must advise the individual in writing of the three-day notification rule. The employer must also notify the individual that she may be disqualified from receiving unemployment insurance benefits if she fails to notify the employer. Iowa Code § 96.5-1-j. The employer's

availability statement requires employees to sign its "work available log" within three working days which is not required under the statute.

However, the employer told the claimant her assignment was over on December 3, 2007. At that time, the claimant asked for additional work but none was available. The claimant went to the employer's office three days later on December 6, 2007 and signed its "work available log." The employer contends the claimant did not check in within three days and considered her to have voluntarily quit. The evidence dictates otherwise. The claimant satisfied the requirements of lowa Code § 96.5-1-j and her separation was with good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are allowed.

DECISION:

The unemployment insurance decision dated April 8, 2008, reference 02, is reversed. The claimant voluntarily quit her employment with good cause attributable to the employer and is qualified to receive unemployment insurance benefits, provided she is otherwise eligible.

Susan D. Ackerman Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

sda/css