

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

MITCHELL T MARING
Claimant

APPEAL NO. 08A-UI-11492-S2T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

WINEGARD COMPANY
Employer

**OC: 11/16/08 R: 04
Claimant: Appellant (1)**

Section 96.5-1 - Voluntary Quit

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Mitchell Maring (claimant) appealed a representative's December 8, 2008 decision (reference 01) that concluded he was not eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits because he voluntarily quit work with Winegard Company (employer). After hearing notices were mailed to the parties' last-known addresses of record, a telephone hearing was scheduled for December 22, 2008. The claimant participated personally. The employer was represented by Margaret Barnes, Hearings Representative, and participated by Carl Ingwersen, Factory Manager, and Debra Dowell, Team Leader.

ISSUE:

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

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 hired on November 17, 2008, as a full-time general utility. The claimant was a good worker but had a personality conflict with a co-worker. On November 17, 2008, the claimant did not like his work environment because a co-worker was upset about a spilled soda. The claimant walked off the job rather than discussing matters with his team leader or factory manager. Continued work was available had the claimant not resigned.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily quit work without good cause attributable to the employer.

Iowa Code section 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(21) 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 Iowa Code section 96.5. However, the claimant has the initial burden to produce evidence that the claimant is not disqualified for benefits in cases involving Iowa Code section 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:

(21) The claimant left because of dissatisfaction with the work environment.

A voluntary leaving of employment requires an intention to terminate the employment relationship accompanied by an overt act of carrying out that intention. Local Lodge #1426 v. Wilson Trailer, 289 N.W.2d 608, 612 (Iowa 1980). The claimant's intention to voluntarily leave work was evidenced by his actions. He walked off the job and quit work. When an employee quits work because he is dissatisfied with the work environment, his leaving is without good cause attributable to the employer. The claimant left work because he did not like his work environment. His leaving was without good cause attributable to the employer. The claimant voluntarily quit without good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are denied.

DECISION:

The representative's December 8, 2008 decision (reference 01) is affirmed. The claimant voluntarily left work without good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until the claimant has worked in and has been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times the claimant's weekly benefit amount, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible.

Beth A. Scheetz
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

bas/css