

**IN THE IOWA ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS DIVISION  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

**DAVID R HUERTA**  
Claimant

**REMEDY INTELLIGENT STAFFING INC**  
Employer

**APPEAL 24A-UI-02328-LJ-T**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**OC: 01/14/24  
Claimant: Appellant (2)**

Iowa Code § 96.5(1)a – Voluntary Quit from Employment  
Iowa Code § 96.5(1)j – Voluntary Quit from Temporary Employment

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

On February 27, 2024, claimant David R. Huerta filed an appeal from the February 22, 2024 (reference 04) unemployment insurance decision that denied benefits, determining claimant voluntarily quit on September 15, 2023 to accept other employment but was not hired by another employer. The Unemployment Insurance Appeals Bureau mailed notice of the hearing on March 7, 2024. Administrative Law Judge Elizabeth A. Johnson held a telephonic hearing at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 26, 2024. Claimant David R. Huerta personally participated. Employer Remedy Intelligent Staffing Inc. participated through Vicky Matthias, Branch Manager. Employer's Exhibits 1 and 2 was received and admitted into the record. The administrative law judge took official notice of the administrative record.

**ISSUE:**

Did the claimant quit the temporary assignment by not reporting for additional work assignments within three business days of the end of the last assignment?

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant began working for Remedy Intelligent Staffing Inc. on January 30, 2023. Most recently, claimant accepted and worked a full-time assignment at University Laundry. Claimant started this assignment on October 27, 2023. The assignment ended on October 28, 2023.

Claimant was driving on his lunch break on Friday, October 28 when his vehicle broke down. He was stuck on a busy road and he could not make it back to work. He contacted the employer and reported that his car broke down on his lunch break, and former branch manager Aria told him to try and make it back to the assignment if he could. She said she would let the assignment know what had happened. Claimant was not able to make it back to the assignment that day.

The following Monday, October 30, claimant reached out to Aria to find out if he was supposed to return to his assignment. Aria told him that the assignment had ended. Claimant requested another assignment during that conversation. Aria told claimant she would be looking for another assignment for him, as claimant was interested in working.

## REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes claimant separated from temporary employment, requested another assignment, and no work was available. Benefits are allowed, provided claimant is otherwise eligible.

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. (1) 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.

(2) 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.

(3) For the purposes of this paragraph:

(a) "Temporary employee" means an individual who is employed by a temporary employment firm to provide services to clients to supplement their workforce during absences, seasonal workloads, temporary skill or labor market shortages, and for special assignments and projects.

(b) "Temporary employment firm" means a person engaged in the business of employing temporary employees.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.26(15) provides:

Employee of temporary employment firm.

a. The individual is a temporary employee of a temporary employment firm who notifies the temporary employment firm within three days of completion of an employment assignment and seeks reassignment under the contract of hire. The

employee must be advised by the employer of the notification requirement in writing and receive a copy.

b. The individual shall be eligible for benefits under this subrule if the individual has good cause for not contacting the employer within three days and did notify the employer at the first reasonable opportunity.

c. Good cause is a substantial and justifiable reason, excuse or cause such that a reasonable and prudent person, who desired to remain in the ranks of the employed, would find to be adequate justification for not notifying the employer. Good cause would include the employer's going out of business; blinding snow storm; telephone lines down; employer closed for vacation; hospitalization of the claimant; and other substantial reasons.

d. Notification may be accomplished by going to the employer's place of business, telephoning the employer, faxing the employer, or any other currently acceptable means of communications. Working days means the normal days in which the employer is open for business.

The purpose of the statute is to provide notice to the temporary agency employer that the claimant is available for and seeking work at the end of the temporary assignment.

It is the duty of the administrative law judge as the trier of fact in this case, to determine the credibility of witnesses, weigh the evidence and decide the facts in issue. *Arndt v. City of LeClaire*, 728 N.W.2d 389, 394-395 (Iowa 2007). The Iowa Supreme Court has ruled that if a party has the power to produce more explicit and direct evidence than it chooses to present, the administrative law judge may infer that evidence not presented would reveal deficiencies in the party's case. *Crosser v. Iowa Dept of Pub. Safety*, 240 N.W.2d 682 (Iowa 1976). The administrative law judge may believe all, part or none of any witness's testimony. *State v. Holtz*, 548 N.W.2d 162, 163 (Iowa App. 1996). In assessing the credibility of witnesses, the administrative law judge should consider the evidence using his or her own observations, common sense and experience. *Id.* In determining the facts, and deciding what testimony to believe, the fact finder may consider the following factors: whether the testimony is reasonable and consistent with other believable evidence; whether a witness has made inconsistent statements; the witness's appearance, conduct, age, intelligence, memory and knowledge of the facts; and the witness's interest in the trial, their motive, candor, bias and prejudice. *Id.*

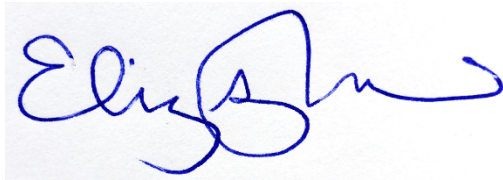
The findings of fact show how I have resolved the disputed factual issues in this case. I assessed the credibility of the witnesses who testified during the hearing, considering the applicable factors listed above, and using my own common sense and experience. I find the employer provided believable testimony regarding claimant's dates of employment. However, I relied on claimant's version of events as to the end of employment and whether work was available when claimant's assignment at University Laundry ended. Claimant was a participant in the conversation with Aria, whereas Matthias was neither a participant in the conversation nor the branch manager of the location where claimant worked.

Claimant completed an assignment with the employer. He spoke with branch manager Aria regarding the end of assignment, and during that conversation they discussed the availability of additional work. Aria did not have any new assignment for claimant. Claimant has met all of the requirements of the employer's policy by checking in, speaking with the employer regarding the end of his assignment, and requesting additional work. The credible evidence in the record

shows that claimant separated with good cause attributable to the employer, and benefits are allowed.

**DECISION:**

The February 22, 2024 (reference 04) unemployment insurance decision is reversed. Claimant quit the employment with good cause attributable to the employer through a qualifying separation from temporary employment. Benefits are allowed effective January 14, 2024, provided he is otherwise eligible.



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Elizabeth A. Johnson  
Administrative Law Judge

March 29, 2024  
Decision Dated and Mailed

lj/rvs

**APPEAL RIGHTS.** If you disagree with the decision, you or any interested party may:

1. Appeal to the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days of the date under the judge's signature by submitting a written appeal via mail, fax, or online to:

**Iowa Employment Appeal Board  
6200 Park Avenue Suite 100  
Des Moines, Iowa 50321  
Fax: (515)281-7191  
Online: [eab.iowa.gov](http://eab.iowa.gov)**

The appeal period will be extended to the next business day if the last day to appeal falls on a weekend or a legal holiday.

**AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD SHALL STATE CLEARLY:**

- 1) The name, address, and social security number of the claimant.
- 2) A reference to the decision from which the appeal is taken.
- 3) That an appeal from such decision is being made and such appeal is signed.
- 4) The grounds upon which such appeal is based.

An Employment Appeal Board decision is final agency action. If a party disagrees with the Employment Appeal Board decision, they may then file a petition for judicial review in district court.

2. If no one files an appeal of the judge's decision with the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days, the decision becomes final agency action, and you have the option to file a petition for judicial review in District Court within thirty (30) days after the decision becomes final. Additional information on how to file a petition can be found at Iowa Code §17A.19, which is online at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf> or by contacting the District Court Clerk of Court <https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/>.

**Note to Parties:** YOU MAY REPRESENT yourself in the appeal or obtain a lawyer or other interested party to do so provided there is no expense to Workforce Development. If you wish to be represented by a lawyer, you may obtain the services of either a private attorney or one whose services are paid for with public funds.

**Note to Claimant:** It is important that you file your weekly claim as directed, while this appeal is pending, to protect your continuing right to benefits.

**SERVICE INFORMATION:**

A true and correct copy of this decision was mailed to each of the parties listed.

**DERECHOS DE APELACIÓN.** Si no está de acuerdo con la decisión, usted o cualquier parte interesada puede:

1. Apelar a la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo dentro de los quince (15) días de la fecha bajo la firma del juez presentando una apelación por escrito por correo, fax o en línea a:

**Iowa Employment Appeal Board  
6200 Park Avenue Suite 100  
Des Moines, Iowa 50321  
Fax: (515)281-7191  
En línea: eab.iowa.gov**

El período de apelación se extenderá hasta el siguiente día hábil si el último día para apelar cae en fin de semana o día feriado legal.

**UNA APELACIÓN A LA JUNTA DEBE ESTABLECER CLARAMENTE:**

- 1) El nombre, dirección y número de seguro social del reclamante.
- 2) Una referencia a la decisión de la que se toma la apelación.
- 3) Que se interponga recurso de apelación contra tal decisión y se firme dicho recurso.
- 4) Los fundamentos en que se funda dicho recurso.

Una decisión de la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo es una acción final de la agencia. Si una de las partes no está de acuerdo con la decisión de la Junta de Apelación de Empleo, puede presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el tribunal de distrito.

2. Si nadie presenta una apelación de la decisión del juez ante la Junta de Apelaciones Laborales dentro de los quince (15) días, la decisión se convierte en acción final de la agencia y usted tiene la opción de presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el Tribunal de Distrito dentro de los treinta (30) días después de que la decisión adquiera firmeza. Puede encontrar información adicional sobre cómo presentar una petición en el Código de Iowa §17A.19, que se encuentra en línea en <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf> o comunicándose con el Tribunal de Distrito Secretario del tribunal <https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/>.

**Nota para las partes:** USTED PUEDE REPRESENTARSE en la apelación u obtener un abogado u otra parte interesada para que lo haga, siempre que no haya gastos para Workforce Development. Si desea ser representado por un abogado, puede obtener los servicios de un abogado privado o uno cuyos servicios se paguen con fondos públicos.

**Nota para el reclamante:** es importante que presente su reclamo semanal según las instrucciones, mientras esta apelación está pendiente, para proteger su derecho continuo a los beneficios.

**SERVICIO DE INFORMACIÓN:**

Se envió por correo una copia fiel y correcta de esta decisión a cada una de las partes enumeradas.