IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

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

JODY ASMUSSEN

Claimant

APPEAL NO: 09A-UI-09347-BT

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

DECISION

TEMP ASSOCIATES - MARSHALLTOWN

Employer

OC: 06/15/08

Claimant: Respondent (4)

Iowa Code § 96.5-1-a - Voluntary Leaving - Other Employment 871 IAC 24.28(5) - Voluntary Quit Requalifications

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Temp Associates - Marshalltown (employer) appealed an unemployment insurance decision dated June 19, 2009, reference 02, which held that Jody Asmussen (claimant) was eligible for unemployment insurance benefits. Due notice was issued scheduling the matter for a telephone hearing to be held July 16, 2009. The employer is not contesting benefits in this case but merely reported the claimant accepted employment elsewhere. Because a decision fully favorable to the parties could be made based on the record as it stood, a hearing was deemed unnecessary. Based on the evidence 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 him to receive unemployment insurance benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having reviewed and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds that: The claimant separated from his employment with the employer on July 1, 2008. Continuing work was available but the claimant accepted employment with Knutson Construction, according to Iowa Workforce records.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The issue is whether the reasons for the claimant's separation from employment qualify him to receive unemployment insurance benefits. For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily left his employment to accept employment elsewhere.

Iowa Code § 96.5-1-a 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:
- a. The individual left employment in good faith for the sole purpose of accepting other or better employment, which the individual did accept, and the individual performed services in the new employment. Benefits relating to wage credits earned with the employer that the individual has left shall be charged to the unemployment compensation fund. This paragraph applies to both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

871 IAC 24.28(5) provides:

Voluntary quit requalifications and previously adjudicated voluntary quit issues.

(5) The claimant shall be eligible for benefits even though the claimant voluntarily quit if the claimant left for the sole purpose of accepting an offer of other or better employment, which the claimant did accept, and from which the claimant is separated, before or after having started the new employment.

An individual who leaves employment voluntarily is disqualified from receiving job insurance benefits unless the quit was for good cause attributable to the employer. Iowa Code § 96.5(1). An exception is if the individual left in good faith for the sole purpose of accepting other employment and has performed services in the new employment at the time the claim for benefits is filed.

DECISION:

The unemployment insurance decision dated June 19, 2009, reference 02, is modified in favor of the appellant. The claimant voluntarily left his employment in order to accept other employment. Benefits are allowed, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible. The employer's account shall not be charged.

Susan D. Ackerman Administrative Law Judge	
Decision Dated and Mailed	

sda/css