

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

MICHALE D ALDERMAN
Claimant

APPEAL NO. 07A-UI-00145-S2T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

LABOR READY MIDWEST INC
Employer

**OC: 11/19/06 R: 03
Claimant: Respondent (2)**

Section 96.5-1-j – Separation from Temporary Employer Section
Section 96.3-7 – Overpayment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Labor Ready (employer) appealed a representative's December 20, 2006 decision (reference 01) that concluded Michael Alderman (claimant) was eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits based on his separation from work. After hearing notices were mailed to the parties' last-known addresses of record, a telephone hearing was held on January 23, 2007. The claimant did not provide a telephone number where he could be reached and, therefore, did not participate. The employer participated by Rebecca Dripps, Branch Manager

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant was separated from employment for any disqualifying reason.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and having considered all of the evidence in the record, finds that: The employer is a temporary employment service. The claimant performed services from May 30, 2001, through the present. He signed a document on May 20, 2004, indicating that he was to contact the employer within three days following the completion of an assignment to request placement in a new assignment. The employer gave the claimant a copy of the document.

The claimant completed his last assignment on November 17, 2006, and filed for unemployment insurance benefits with an effective date of November 19, 2006. The claimant sought reassignment on November 21, 2006, and was immediately placed. That assignment ended on November 22, 2006. The claimant did not seek reassignment until December 4, 2006, even though work would have been available. The claimant worked on December 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 2006. He did not seek reassignment between December 6 and 11 or after December 12, 2006. He worked again on January 2, 5, 8, 9, 10 and 11, 2007. He did not seek reassignment after January 11, 2007. At all times work would have been available to the claimant had he sought reassignment.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The administrative law judge finds the claimant was not separated from the employer for any disqualifying reason. As an employee of a temporary service, the claimant was required to request reassignment after the completion of his last assignment.

Iowa Code section 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.

The claimant did not request reassignment and has, therefore, failed to satisfy the requirements of Iowa Code Section 96.5-1-j. Benefits are denied.

Iowa Code section 96.3-7 provides:

7. Recovery of overpayment of benefits. If an individual receives benefits for which the individual is subsequently determined to be ineligible, even though the individual acts in good faith and is not otherwise at fault, the benefits shall be recovered. The department in its discretion may recover the overpayment of benefits either by having a sum equal to

the overpayment deducted from any future benefits payable to the individual or by having the individual pay to the department a sum equal to the overpayment.

If the department determines that an overpayment has been made, the charge for the overpayment against the employer's account shall be removed and the account shall be credited with an amount equal to the overpayment from the unemployment compensation trust fund and this credit shall include both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

The claimant has received benefits in the amount of \$849.00 since filing he claim herein. Pursuant to this decision, those benefits now constitute an overpayment which must be repaid.

DECISION:

The representative's December 20, 2006 decision (reference 01) is reversed. The claimant was separated from the employer for no good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until he has worked in and has been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times his weekly benefit amount, provided he is otherwise eligible. The claimant is overpaid benefits in the amount of \$849.00.

Beth A. Scheetz
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

bas/kjw