IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

DWINSON ALPIN Claimant

APPEAL 20A-UI-04406-J1-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION Employer

> OC: 04/05/20 Claimant: Appellant (1)

Iowa Code § 96.5(1) – Voluntary Quit

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

On May 21, 2020, the claimant filed an appeal from the May 18, 2020, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision that denied benefits based on voluntary quitting not attributable to the employer. The parties were properly notified about the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on June 8, 2020. Claimant participated and a witness, Mikijo Edward testified. The employer did not participate.

ISSUE:

Did claimant quit his employment with good cause attributable to the employer?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant began working for employer on July 29, 2020. Claimant last worked as a full-time assembler. Claimant was separated from employment on July 17, 2019, when he submitted a resignation due to health issues that were not related to his work at Whirlpool Corporation.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes as follows:

lowa Code §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.

A voluntary quitting means discontinuing the employment because the employee no longer desires to remain in the relationship of an employee with the employer and requires an intention to terminate the employment. *Wills v. Emp't Appeal Bd.*, 447 N.W. 2d 137, 138 (Iowa 1989). 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); Peck v. Emp't Appeal Bd., 492 N.W.2d 438 (Iowa Ct. App. 1992). Claimant had an intention to quit and carried out that intention by tendering her written resignation. As such, claimant has the burden of proving that the voluntary leaving was for good cause attributable to the employer. Iowa Code § 96.6(2). "Good cause" for leaving employment must be that which is reasonable to the average person, not the overly sensitive individual or the claimant in particular. *Uniweld Products v. Indus. Relations Comm'n*, 277 So.2d 827 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 1973).

In this case there is no evidence that claimant was advised to resign his position by a licensed medical provider or that he has been certified able to return to work. The claimant voluntarily quit his employment without cause attributable to the employer.

Note to Claimant: This decision determines you are not eligible for regular unemployment insurance benefits. If you disagree with this decision you may file an appeal to the Employment Appeal Board by following the instructions on the first page of this decision. Individuals who do not qualify for regular unemployment insurance benefits due to disqualifying separations, but who are currently unemployed for reasons related to COVID-19 may qualify for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA). You will need to apply for PUA to determine your eligibility under the program. Additional information on how to apply for PUA can be found at https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/pua-information.

DECISION:

The May 18, 2020 (reference 01) decision that denied benefits based upon a voluntary quit is affirmed.

Fillit

James F. Elliott Administrative Law Judge

June 15, 2020 Decision Dated and Mailed

je/sam