

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Unemployment Insurance Appeals Section
1000 East Grand—Des Moines, Iowa 50319
DECISION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
68-0157 (7-97) – 3091078 - EI

TROY L ARMEL
208 DICKMAN RD APT 241
DES MOINES IA 50315

HY-VEE INC
c/o TALX UCM SERVICES INC
PO BOX 283
ST LOUIS MO 63166-0283

Appeal Number: 04A-UI-04469-MT
OC: 03/21/04 R: 02
Claimant: Respondent (1)

This Decision Shall Become Final, unless within fifteen (15) days from the date below, you or any interested party appeal to the Employment Appeal Board by submitting either a signed letter or a signed written Notice of Appeal, directly to the **Employment Appeal Board, 4th Floor—Lucas Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319**.

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.

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.

YOU MAY REPRESENT yourself in this appeal or you may 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. It is important that you file your claim as directed, while this appeal is pending, to protect your continuing right to benefits.

(Administrative Law Judge)

(Decision Dated & Mailed)

Section 96.5-1 – Voluntary Quit

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Employer filed an appeal from a decision of a representative dated April 8, 2004, reference 01, which held claimant eligible for unemployment insurance benefits. After due notice, a telephone conference hearing was scheduled for and held on May 24, 2004. Claimant participated. Employer participated by David Williams, Hearings Representative, Talx UCExpress; Dean Cirksena, Meat Manager; Megan O'Boyle, Human Resource Coordinator; Ted Jones, Assistant Director; Chad Adams, Manager Perishables; and Willie Glosser, Store Director. Exhibit A was admitted into evidence.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds: Claimant last worked for employer on February 29, 2004. Claimant quit because of irregular hours scheduled and because he was promised a pay rate of \$8.00 per hour but was paid one dollar per hour less. Claimant made persistent and multiple complaints about these issues and even went to the corporate office to complain. This corporate complaint made the employer a little upset and ended with a terse conference with the Store Director over the issues.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The issue in this matter is whether claimant quit for good cause attributable to employer. The administrative law judge holds that the evidence has established that claimant voluntarily quit for good cause attributable to employer when claimant terminated the employment relationship because of the rate of pay. Claimant was promised a higher rate of pay. The persistent complaints from the beginning of employment weigh heavily toward a finding of a promised \$8.00 per hour rate. It may have been a misstatement or accident but nevertheless the rate was promised. Lowering claimant's rate of pay is a significant change in the contract of hire, which is good cause attributable to employer for a quit. Benefits allowed.

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 24.26(1) provides:

Voluntary quit with good cause attributable to the employer and separations not considered to be voluntary quits. The following are reasons for a claimant leaving employment with good cause attributable to the employer:

(1) A change in the contract of hire. An employer's willful breach of contract of hire shall not be a disqualifiable issue. This would include any change that would jeopardize the worker's safety, health or morals. The change of contract of hire must be substantial in nature and could involve changes in working hours, shifts, remuneration, location of employment, drastic modification in type of work, etc. Minor changes in a worker's routine on the job would not constitute a change of contract of hire.

DECISION:

The decision of the representative dated April 8, 2004, reference 01, is affirmed. Unemployment insurance benefits are allowed provided claimant is otherwise eligible.

mdm\kjf