

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

MARILYN SYCHRA
Claimant

APPEAL NO: 09A-UI-19331-B

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

EXPRESS SERVICES INC
Employer

OC: 07/27/08
Claimant: Appellant (2)

Iowa Code § 96.5-1-j - Voluntary Quit of Temporary Employment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Marilyn Sychra (claimant) appealed an unemployment insurance decision dated December 18, 2009, reference 02, which held that she was not eligible for unemployment insurance benefits because she voluntarily quit her employment with Express Services, Inc. (employer) without good cause attributable to the employer. After hearing notices were mailed to the parties' last-known addresses of record, a hearing was held in Des Moines, Iowa on March 17, 2010. The claimant participated in the hearing. The employer failed to participate in the hearing. Based on the evidence, the arguments of the party, 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 is disqualified for failure to contact the temporary employment agency within three working days after the completion of her assignment, when notified of this requirement at the time of hire.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds that: The claimant was hired as a temporary part-time clerical employee on March 25, 2009. At the time of hire, the claimant signed an availability statement which advised her of the requirement to check in for additional work after the completion of an assignment. The employer requires employees to check in within three working days after an assignment ends to provide the employer notification of the claimant's availability and failure to do so would be considered as a voluntary quit. The claimant was given a copy of the availability statement, which is not part of the application or contract of employment.

The claimant's last assignment ended on approximately April 3, 2009. When the employer advised the claimant her assignment was over, the claimant requested additional work in that same phone call but the employer had no open positions. She stopped in the office to check on insurance a couple days later and again asked for additional work but no work was available.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The issue in this case is whether the reasons for the claimant's separation from employment qualify her to receive unemployment insurance benefits. The claimant is not qualified to receive unemployment insurance benefits if she voluntarily quit without good cause attributable to the employer or if the employer discharged her for work-connected misconduct. Iowa Code §§ 96.5-1 and 96.5-2-a. The employer herein is a temporary employment agency and temporary employment agencies are governed by Iowa Code § 96.5-1-j, which places specific restrictions on both the employer and the employee with regard to qualification for unemployment insurance benefits after a voluntary separation.

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. 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.

In the case herein, the employer was aware that the claimant's assignment was going to end and had direct knowledge that the claimant was available for reassignment. She requested additional work in the same phone call that ended her assignment and stopped by the office a few days later to provide the same information. The claimant satisfied the requirements of Iowa

Code § 96.5-1-j and is considered to have voluntarily quit with good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are allowed.

DECISION:

The unemployment insurance decision dated December 18, 2009, reference 02, is reversed. The claimant voluntarily quit her employment with good cause attributable to the employer and is qualified to receive unemployment insurance benefits, provided she is otherwise eligible.

Susan D. Ackerman
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

sda/pjs