IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

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

 CRYSTAL ROHLFS

 Claimant

 APPEAL NO: 11A-UI-11362-ET

 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

 DECISION

 KUM & GO LC

 Employer

Claimant: Appellant (1R)

OC: 07-03-11

Section 96.5-1 – Voluntary Leaving 871 IAC 24.25(2) – Voluntary Quit to Move 871 IAC 24.27 – Voluntary Quit of Part-Time Employment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed a timely appeal from the August 18, 2011, reference 02, decision that denied benefits. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held by telephone conference call before Administrative Law Judge Julie Elder on September 20, 2011. The claimant participated in the hearing. William Hook, General Manager, participated in the hearing on behalf of the employer.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant's voluntary separation from her part-time employment qualifies her to receive unemployment insurance benefits.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant was employed as a part-time associate clerk for Kum & Go from August 21, 2008 to June 1, 2011. The claimant quit to relocate to Minnesota. Continued work with the employer was available.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily left her employment without good cause attributable to the employer.

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 24.25(2) provides:

Voluntary quit without good cause. In general, a voluntary quit means discontinuing the employment because the employee no longer desires to remain in the relationship of an employee with the employer from whom the employee has separated. The employer has the burden of proving that the claimant is disqualified for benefits pursuant to Iowa Code section 96.5. However, the claimant has the initial burden to produce evidence that the claimant is not disqualified for benefits in cases involving Iowa Code section 96.5, subsection (1), paragraphs "a" through "i," and subsection 10. The following reasons for a voluntary quit shall be presumed to be without good cause attributable to the employer:

(2) The claimant moved to a different locality.

The claimant has the burden of proving that the voluntary leaving was for good cause attributable to the employer. Iowa Code section 96.6(2). While the claimant's decision to leave because she moved to another area may have been for good personal reasons, it was not for good cause attributable to the employer at that term is defined by Iowa law. This employer's account is therefore not subject to charge.

However, an individual who quits part-time employment without good cause, yet is otherwise monetarily eligible based on wages paid by other base-period employers, shall not be disqualified for voluntarily quitting the part-time employment. Benefit payments shall not be based on wages paid by the part-time employer and charges shall not be assessed against the part-time employer's account. Once the individual has met the requalification requirements, the wages paid from the part-time employment can be used for benefit payment purposes. 871 IAC 24.27.

Based on this regulation, this matter is remanded to the Claims Section to determine whether the claimant is monetarily eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits when the wage credits the claimant earned while working for the employer are not used in determining the claimant's monetary eligibility or her maximum weekly benefit amount.

DECISION:

The August 18, 2011, reference 02, decision is affirmed. The claimant voluntarily quit her part-time employment for disqualifying reasons. Therefore, the employer's account will not be charged. This matter is remanded to the Claims Section to determine whether the claimant is monetarily eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits and to determine what her

maximum weekly benefit amount is when the wage credits the claimant earned from the employer are not taken into consideration to determine these two issues.

Julie Elder Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

je/css