

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

TED W STEVENS
Claimant

APPEAL NO. 14A-UI-07629-S2T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

ACH FOOD COMPANY INC
Employer

OC: 07/06/14
Claimant: Appellant (1)

Section 96.5-1 - Voluntary Quit

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Ted Stevens (claimant) appealed a representative's July 24, 2014, decision (reference 01) that concluded he was not eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits because he voluntarily quit work with ACH Food Company (employer). After hearing notices were mailed to the parties' last-known addresses of record, a telephone hearing was scheduled for August 15, 2014. The claimant participated personally. The employer did not provide a telephone number where it could be reached and therefore, did not participate in the hearing.

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 considered all of the evidence in the record, finds that: The claimant was hired on November 14, 1997, as a full-time master mechanic. The employer had issued the claimant various safety warnings and at least two warnings for failure to wear his safety harness while working on a scissor lift. The claimant thought it was easier to do his job without wearing it. On June 26, 2014, the claimant did not wear his safety harness while working on the scissor lift. While working, the claimant dropped the hoist twelve to fifteen feet causing \$1,000.00 damage. On June 27, 2014, the employer reprimanded the claimant. The claimant said, "Fuck it. I quit". He then walked out.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily quit work 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.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.25(28) 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:

(28) The claimant left after being reprimanded.

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). The claimant's intention to voluntarily leave work was evidenced by his words and actions. He told the employer he was leaving and quit work. When an employee quits work after having been reprimanded, his leaving is without good cause attributable to the employer. The claimant left work after having been reprimanded. His leaving was without good cause attributable to the employer. The claimant voluntarily quit without good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are denied.

DECISION:

The representative's July 24, 2014, decision (reference 01) is affirmed. The claimant voluntarily left work without good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until the claimant has worked in and has been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times the claimant's weekly benefit amount provided the claimant is otherwise eligible.

Beth A. Scheetz
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

bas/css