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

ALBERT L MOSS 342 FINKBINE LN APT 3 IOWA CITY IA 52246

ACCESS DIRECT TELEMARKETING INC [°]/_o JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES PO BOX 6007 OMAHA NE 68106-6007

Appeal Number:04A-UI-11070-S2TOC:07/04/04R:03Claimant:Respondent (2)

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 Section 96.3-7 – Overpayment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Access Direct Telemarketing (employer) appealed a representative's October 4, 2004 decision (reference 06) that concluded Albert Moss (claimant) was discharged and there was no evidence of willful or deliberate misconduct. After hearing notices were mailed to the parties' last-known addresses of record, a telephone hearing was held on November 5 and 9, 2004. The claimant participated personally. The employer was represented by Peg Heenan, Attorney at Law, and participated by Heather Campbell, General Manager; and Travis Eichelberger, Program Manager.

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 August 30, 2004, as a full-time telephone sales representative. The claimant received a copy of the employer's handbook and signed for its receipt on September 1, 2004. At the time the claimant was hired he hoped he would be working on the City Bank account after having read their script. The employer did not promise the claimant which account on which he would be working. The claimant was placed on the America Online account when he started working.

On September 7, 2004, the claimant did not appear for work or notify the employer of his absence. The claimant went to a temporary agency to apply for another job at the time he should have been at work. On September 8, 2004, the claimant went to his supervisor to apologize to the employer for failing to appear for work or notify the employer of his absence on September 7, 2004. The employer assumed he had quit.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The issue is whether the claimant voluntarily quit without good cause attributable to the employer. For the following reasons the administrative law judge concludes he did.

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(3) 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:

(3) The claimant left to seek other employment but did not secure employment.

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. <u>Wilson Trailer</u>, 289 N.W.2d 608, 612 (Iowa 1980). The claimant's intention to voluntarily leave work was evidenced by his actions. He stopped appearing for work and applied for other employment. When an employee quits work to seek other employment but does not secure other employment, his leaving is without good cause attributable to the employer. The claimant left work to seek other employment but did not secure other employment. His leaving was without good cause attributable to the employer. The claimant voluntarily quit without good cause attributable to the employer.

Iowa Code Section 96.3-7 provides:

7. Recovery of overpayment of benefits. If an individual receives benefits for which the individual is subsequently determined to be ineligible, even though the individual acts in good faith and is not otherwise at fault, the benefits shall be recovered. The department in its discretion may recover the overpayment of benefits either by having a sum equal to the overpayment deducted from any future benefits payable to the individual or by having the individual pay to the department a sum equal to the overpayment.

If the department determines that an overpayment has been made, the charge for the overpayment against the employer's account shall be removed and the account shall be credited with an amount equal to the overpayment from the unemployment compensation trust fund and this credit shall include both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

The claimant has received benefits in the amount of \$1,216.00 since filing his claim herein. Pursuant to this decision, those benefits now constitute an overpayment which must be repaid.

DECISION:

The representative's October 4, 2004 decision (reference 06) is reversed. The claimant voluntarily left work without good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until he has worked in and has been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times his weekly benefit amount provided he is otherwise eligible. The claimant is overpaid benefits in the amount of \$1,216.00.

bas/kjf