

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

DEBBIE L GRUBBS

Claimant

APPEAL NO. 12A-UI-03541-H2T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

KINSETH HOTEL CORP

Employer

OC: 02-05-12

Claimant: Respondent (1)

Iowa Code § 96.4(3) – Able and Available
Iowa Code § 96.19(38)a & b – Total and Partial Unemployment
Iowa Code § 96.7(2)a – Same Base Period Employment
871 IAC 24.22(2)f – Part-Time Worker – Able and Available

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The employer filed a timely appeal from the March 27, 2012, reference 01, decision that allowed benefits. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held on April 24, 2012. The claimant did participate. The employer did participate through Ronald Bernard, General Manager, Erin Peavler, Head Housekeeper and was represented by Amy Lauricello of Employer's Unity, LLC Express. Employer's Exhibit One was entered and received into the record.

ISSUE:

Is the claimant partially unemployed?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant was employed as a laundry clerk part time beginning through date of hearing as she remains employed. Due to a slowdown in the employer's business the claimant's hours of work have been reduced. She was not hired with the understanding that she would be required to work nights and she is not required to work nights in order to remain eligible for unemployment insurance benefits. The employer's own record of the claimant's hour's show a clear reduction in her hours of work from last July 2011. The only reason the claimant is not working the hours she was hired to work, regular part time, is due to reduced needs on the part of the employer.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant is partially unemployed for the period beginning February 5, 2012.

Iowa Code § 96.4-3 provides:

An unemployed individual shall be eligible to receive benefits with respect to any week only if the department finds that:

3. The individual is able to work, is available for work, and is earnestly and actively seeking work. This subsection is waived if the individual is deemed partially unemployed, while employed at the individual's regular job, as defined in section 96.19, subsection 38, paragraph "b", unnumbered paragraph 1, or temporarily unemployed as defined in section 96.19, subsection 38, paragraph "c". The work search requirements of this subsection and the disqualification requirement for failure to apply for, or to accept suitable work of section 96.5, subsection 3 are waived if the individual is not disqualified for benefits under section 96.5, subsection 1, paragraph "h".

Iowa Code § 96.19-38 provides:

"Total and partial unemployment".

a. An individual shall be deemed "totally unemployed" in any week with respect to which no wages are payable to the individual and during which the individual performs no services.

b. An individual shall be deemed partially unemployed in any week in which, while employed at the individual's then regular job, the individual works less than the regular full-time week and in which the individual earns less than the individual's weekly benefit amount plus fifteen dollars.

An individual shall be deemed partially unemployed in any week in which the individual, having been separated from the individual's regular job, earns at odd jobs less than the individual's weekly benefit amount plus fifteen dollars.

c. An individual shall be deemed temporarily unemployed if for a period, verified by the department, not to exceed four consecutive weeks, the individual is unemployed due to a plant shutdown, vacation, inventory, lack of work or emergency from the individual's regular job or trade in which the individual worked full-time and will again work full-time, if the individual's employment, although temporarily suspended, has not been terminated.

Iowa Code § 96.7-2-a(2) provides:

2. Contribution rates based on benefit experience.

a. (2) The amount of regular benefits plus fifty percent of the amount of extended benefits paid to an eligible individual shall be charged against the account of the employers in the base period in the inverse chronological order in which the employment of the individual occurred.

However, if the individual to whom the benefits are paid is in the employ of a base period employer at the time the individual is receiving the benefits, and the individual is receiving the same employment from the employer that the individual received during the individual's base period, benefits paid to the individual shall not be charged against the account of the employer. This provision applies to both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding subparagraph (3) and section 96.8, subsection 5.

An employer's account shall not be charged with benefits paid to an individual who left the work of the employer voluntarily without good cause attributable to the employer or to an individual who was discharged for misconduct in connection with the individual's employment, or to an individual who failed without good cause, either to apply for available, suitable work or to accept suitable work with that employer, but shall be charged to the unemployment compensation fund. This paragraph applies to both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

The amount of benefits paid to an individual, which is solely due to wage credits considered to be in an individual's base period due to the exclusion and substitution of calendar quarters from the individual's base period under section 96.23, shall be charged against the account of the employer responsible for paying the workers' compensation benefits for temporary total disability or during a healing period under section 85.33, section 85.34, subsection 1, or section 85A.17, or responsible for paying indemnity insurance benefits.

Because the claimant is currently employed less than her regular hours, she is considered partially unemployed. Benefits may be allowed based upon reporting of weekly earnings. For whatever period the employer is not offering the same wages and hours as contemplated in the contract of hire, it may be liable for benefit charges to its account.

DECISION:

The March 27, 2012, reference 01, decision is affirmed. The claimant is partially unemployed and benefits are allowed, provided she is otherwise eligible. The account of employer (account number 164045), may be liable for charges.

Teresa K. Hillary
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

tkh/css