

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

**MICHAEL T SUMNER**  
Claimant

**APPEAL NO. 08A-UI-11630-NT**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**THE MAYTAG COMPANY**  
Employer

**OC: 08/31/08 R: 03**  
**Claimant: Appellant (1)**

Section 96.5-1 – Voluntary Quit

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

The claimant filed an appeal from a decision of a representative dated December 5, 2008, reference 02, which denied benefits based upon his separation from The Maytag Company. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held by telephone on December 30, 2008. Mr. Sumner participated personally. Although duly notified, the employer failed to respond to the hearing notice and did not participate.

**ISSUE:**

At issue in this matter is whether the claimant quit for good cause attributable to the employer.

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

The administrative law judge having heard the testimony and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds: The claimant worked for this employer from August 13, 2007 until October 10, 2008 when he voluntarily quit employment to pursue educational goals. Mr. Sumner was employed as a full-time inspector and was paid by the hour.

The claimant quit his employment with Maytag Company because he felt that the distance to work and the job were affecting his grades. Mr. Sumner receives an academic scholarship and was concerned that the scholarship might be jeopardized if his grades deteriorated. The claimant left available employment with The Maytag Company after providing a two-week notice to the company.

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

The question is whether the evidence in the record establishes that Mr. Sumner voluntarily quit his job with good cause attributable to the employer. It does not.

The evidence in the record establishes that the claimant's primary reason for leaving his employment with The Maytag Company was his desire to spend more time studying so that his grades would improve and his academic scholarship would not be jeopardized.

While the claimant's reasons were undoubtedly good from a personal viewpoint, the administrative law judge concludes that the claimant's reasons for leaving were not attributable to the employer but attributable to the claimant's personal desire to ensure his academic success. The claimant's quitting was not caused by 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.

**DECISION:**

The representative's decision dated December 5, 2008, reference 02, is affirmed. The claimant voluntarily quit employment for reasons not attributable to the employer. Unemployment insurance benefits are withheld until the claimant has worked in and has been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times claimant's weekly benefit amount, providing that he meets all other eligibility requirements of Iowa law.

---

Terence P. Nice  
Administrative Law Judge

---

Decision Dated and Mailed

css/css