IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

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

BRIAN G JENSEN Claimant

APPEAL NO. 09A-UI-14862-HT

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

PILOT TRAVEL CENTERS LLC Employer

OC: 09/06/09 Claimant: Appellant (1)

Section 96.5(1)c – Quit/Family Medical

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant, Brian Jensen, filed an appeal from a decision dated September 28, 2009, reference 01. The decision disqualified him from receiving unemployment benefits. After due notice was issued a hearing was held by telephone conference call on November 3, 2009. The claimant participated on his own behalf. The employer, Pilot Travel Centers, participated by General Manager Bill Chinn.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant quit work with good cause attributable to the employer.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Brian Jensen was employed by Pilot Travel Centers from November 16, 2008 until July 15, 2009 as a full-time cook. He quit in order to move to Missouri to help his sister who was having serious medical problems. His sister has not yet recovered to the extent where Mr. Jensen's help is no longer needed.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code section 96.5-1-c 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. But the individual shall not be disqualified if the department finds that:

c. The individual left employment for the necessary and sole purpose of taking care of a member of the individual's immediate family who was then injured or ill, and if after said member of the family sufficiently recovered, the individual immediately returned to and offered the individual's services to the individual's employer, provided, however, that during such period the individual did not accept any other employment.

The claimant left for the sole purpose of moving to another state to help a family member during a serious medical situation. He has not yet been able to move back to his home and offer his services to Pilot Travel Centers. Under the provisions of the above Administrative Code section, this is a voluntary quit without good cause attributable to the employer and he is disqualified.

DECISION:

The representative's decision of September 28, 2009, reference 01, is affirmed. Brian Jensen is disqualified and benefits are withheld until he has earned ten times his weekly benefit amount, provided he is otherwise eligible.

Bonny G. Hendricksmeyer Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

bgh/pjs