### IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

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

KELLY LUCY Claimant

# APPEAL NO: 12A-UI-03494-ET

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

L A LEASING INC Employer

> OC: 02-12-12 Claimant: Respondent (1)

Section 96.5(1) – Voluntary Leaving 871 IAC 24.26(19 & 22) – Voluntary Leaving Section 96.5-1-j – Reassignment from Employer

## STATEMENT OF CASE:

The employer filed a timely appeal from the March 30, 2012, reference 02, decision that allowed benefits to the claimant. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held by telephone conference call before Administrative Law Judge Julie Elder on April 23, 2012. The claimant participated in the hearing. Trisha Atkinson, branch manager, and Colleen McGuinty, unemployment benefits administrator, participated in the hearing on behalf of the employer.

#### **ISSUE:**

The issue is whether the claimant voluntarily left his employment and whether he sought reassignment from the employer.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant was employed as a full-time welder for Sedona Staffing last assigned to Wady Industries from April 7, 2011 to August 31, 2011. The claimant's assignment was ended by the client because of his attendance, but the employer could not provide the dates of his absences. He had six abscessed teeth and was absent on six occasions, including August 31, 2011, because of his dental problems. He had notes from his dentist for four or five of his absences. The client told the claimant it was letting him go until he could take care of his teeth, because it only allowed six absences and it must be a planned absence to be considered excused. Branch Manager Trisha Atkinson notified the claimant August 31, 2011, that he was not needed back and did not provide any further instruction to the claimant. The claimant went to the employer's office to pick up his check September 1, 2011, so he could go to Iowa City to have his teeth fixed surgically but it was not ready, so he returned September 2, 2011. He told the employer he needed additional work and that he could work right away and wanted to work right away. He reported to the employer's office approximately every other day for one month without receiving an additional assignment.

#### **REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant's separation was not disqualifying.

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 24.26(19) provides:

Voluntary quit with good cause attributable to the employer and separations not considered to be voluntary quits. The following are reasons for a claimant leaving employment with good cause attributable to the employer:

(19) The claimant was employed on a temporary basis for assignment to spot jobs or casual labor work and fulfilled the contract of hire when each of the jobs was completed. An election not to report for a new assignment to work shall not be construed as a voluntary leaving of employment. The issue of a refusal of an offer of suitable work shall be adjudicated when an offer of work is made by the former employer. The provisions of lowa Code section 96.5(3) and rule 24.24(96) are controlling in the determination of suitability of work. However, this subrule shall not apply to substitute school employees who are subject to the provisions of lowa Code section 96.4(5) which denies benefits that are based on service in an educational institution when the individual declines or refuses to accept a new contract or reasonable assurance of continued employment status. Under this circumstance, the substitute school employee shall be considered to have voluntarily quit employment.

871 IAC 24.26(22) provides:

Voluntary quit with good cause attributable to the employer and separations not considered to be voluntary quits. The following are reasons for a claimant leaving employment with good cause attributable to the employer:

(22) The claimant was hired for a specific period of time and completed the contract of hire by working until this specific period of time had lapsed. However, this subrule shall not apply to substitute school employees who are subject to the provisions of Iowa Code section 96.4(5) which denies benefits that are based on service in an educational institution when the individual declines or refuses to accept a new contract or reasonable assurance of continued employment status. Under this circumstance, the substitute school employees shall be considered to have voluntarily quit employment.

Iowa Code section 96.5-1-j 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:

j. The individual is a temporary employee of a temporary employment firm who notifies the temporary employment firm of completion of an employment assignment and who seeks reassignment. Failure of the individual to notify the temporary employment firm of completion of an employment assignment within three working days of the completion of each employment assignment under a contract of hire shall be deemed a voluntary quit unless the individual was not advised in writing of the duty to notify the temporary employment firm upon completion of an employment assignment or the individual had good cause for not contacting the temporary employment firm within three working days and notified the firm at the first reasonable opportunity thereafter.

To show that the employee was advised in writing of the notification requirement of this paragraph, the temporary employment firm shall advise the temporary employee by requiring the temporary employee, at the time of employment with the temporary employment firm, to read and sign a document that provides a clear and concise explanation of the notification requirement and the consequences of a failure to notify. The document shall be separate from any contract of employment and a copy of the signed document shall be provided to the temporary employee.

For the purposes of this paragraph:

(1) "Temporary employee" means an individual who is employed by a temporary employment firm to provide services to clients to supplement their work force during absences, seasonal workloads, temporary skill or labor market shortages, and for special assignments and projects.

(2) "Temporary employment firm" means a person engaged in the business of employing temporary employees.

Inasmuch as the claimant completed the contract of hire with employer and sought reassignment from the employer, no disqualification is imposed. Therefore, benefits are allowed.

## DECISION:

The March 30, 2012, reference 02, decision is affirmed. The claimant's separation from employment was for no disqualifying reason. Benefits are allowed, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible.

Julie Elder Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

je/kjw