

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

TAMARA A LEE
Claimant

APPEAL NO. 07A-UI-10421-S2T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

MICHAEL T LETKEWICZ
Employer

OC: 09/16/07 R: 03
Claimant: Appellant (1)

Section 96.5-1 - Voluntary Quit

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Tamara Lee (claimant) appealed a representative's November 6, 2007 decision (reference 02) that concluded she was not eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits because she voluntarily quit work with Michael Letkewicz (employer). After hearing notices were mailed to the parties' last-known addresses of record, a telephone hearing was scheduled for November 29, 2007. The claimant participated personally. The employer participated by Michael Letkewicz, Owner.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant voluntarily quit work without good cause attributable to the employer.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and having considered all of the evidence in the record, finds that: The claimant was hired on July 17, 2007 as a full-time dental assistant. The claimant quit work to take other employment in another city but could not sell her apartment. She did not take, accept, or start work at the other job. Continued work was available had the claimant not resigned.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily quit work without good cause attributable to 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.

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. Wilson Trailer, 289 N.W.2d 608, 612 (Iowa 1980). The claimant's intention to voluntarily leave work was evidenced by her actions. She left to seek other employment but did not secure other employment. When an employee seeks but does not secure other employment, her leaving is without good cause attributable to the employer. The claimant left work for more than ten working days for compelling personal reasons. Her leaving was without good cause attributable to the employer. The claimant voluntarily quit without good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are denied.

DECISION:

The representative's November 6, 2007 decision (reference 02) is affirmed. The claimant voluntarily left work without good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until the claimant has worked in and has been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times the claimant's weekly benefit amount, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible.

Beth A. Scheetz
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

bas/kjw