IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

BRANDY L MCINTYRE

Claimant

APPEAL 21A-UI-10519-JD-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

EXPRESS SERVICES INC

Employer

OC: 01/06/19

Claimant: Appellant (2)

Iowa Code § 96.5(1) - Voluntary Quitting

Iowa Code § 96.5(1)j - Voluntary Quitting - Temporary Employment

Iowa Code § 96.5(2)a – Discharge for Misconduct

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant/appellant filed an appeal from the March 25, 2021, (reference 05) unemployment insurance decision that denied benefits based upon her voluntary quit from employment by failing to notify the temporary employment firm within three working days of the completion of her last work assignment. The parties were properly notified of the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on July 1, 2021. The claimant, Brandy McIntyre, participated personally. The employer did not register for or participate in the hearing. The administrative law judge took official notice of the administrative record.

ISSUES:

Did claimant voluntarily quit the employment with good cause attributable to employer? Did the claimant voluntarily quit by not reporting for an additional work assignment within three business days of the end of the last assignment?

Was the claimant discharged for disqualifying job-related misconduct?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant was a temporary employee of a temporary employment firm. Claimant began her employment in August 2020. On October 17, 2020 the claimant ended her assignment due to harassment from an individual that had harassed and attacked her at a previous work assignment. The claimant was not provided any policy regarding the necessity to contact the temporary employment agency within three days after the ending of an assignment.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the separation was with good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are allowed.

Iowa Code § 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. (1) 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.
- (2) 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.
- (3) For the purposes of this paragraph:
- (a) "Temporary employee" means an individual who is employed by a temporary employment firm to provide services to clients to supplement their workforce during absences, seasonal workloads, temporary skill or labor market shortages, and for special assignments and projects.
- (b) "Temporary employment firm" means a person engaged in the business of employing temporary employees.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.26(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.

Since the employer did not provide instruction about what to do at the end of the assignment according to Iowa Code § 96.5(1)j, the separation is not disqualifying.

As such, the claimant complied with Iowa Code section 96.5(1)j and she did not voluntarily quit without good cause attributable to the employer. The separation is not disqualifying. Benefits are allowed.

DECISION:

The March 25, 2021, (reference 5) unemployment insurance decision is REVERSED. The claimant's separation from employment was not disqualifying. Benefits are allowed, provided she is otherwise eligible. Any benefits claimed and withheld on this basis shall be paid.

Jason Dunn

Administrative Law Judge
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July 19, 2021

Decision Dated and Mailed

jd/lj