IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

CHRISTINE R PEERY

Claimant

APPEAL NO. 17A-UI-07882-B2T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

MANPOWER INTERNATIONAL INC

Employer

OC: 07/02/17

Claimant: Appellant (2)

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

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Claimant filed an appeal from a decision of a representative dated July 27, 2017, reference 01, which held claimant ineligible for unemployment insurance benefits. After due notice, a hearing was scheduled for and held on August 21, 2017. Claimant participated personally. Employer failed to respond to the hearing notice and did not participate.

ISSUE:

Did the claimant quit by not reporting for an additional work assignment within three business days of the end of the last assignment?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds: As claimant was the only participant in the hearing, all findings of fact are derived from claimant's testimony. Claimant last worked for employer on June 30, 2017. Employer discharged claimant on June 30, 2017 because claimant was late and absent from her most recent assignment on repeated occasions.

Claimant was placed by employer at Houghton, washing parts for Eaton. Recently claimant missed a large amount of work because of automobile problems and other events that led to absences. The last, most recent absence that led to claimant's termination occurred on July 28, 2017 when claimant was a no-call/no-show for work on that date. This followed claimant's not being a work on June 26 and 20, 2017 as claimant had difficulties getting to work.

Claimant stated that she'd never received any warnings from Houghton or from Manpower prior to her termination. Claimant additionally stated that she never signed any documents with Manpower asking her to be in contact with employer in compliance with Iowa Code § 96.5(1)j.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code section 96.5(1)j provides:

An individual shall be disqualified for benefits, regardless of the source of the individual's wage credits:

- 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 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 employee shall be considered to have voluntarily quit employment.

Since employer provided no evidence that it presented claimant with a written copy of the reporting policy according to the specific terms of Iowa Code § 96.5(1)j, claimant was reasonable to opt to look for work elsewhere or to report for additional work when she did. Claimant did not know that she needed to be in contact with employer after she'd been discharged at her placement, and therefore did not do so. Benefits are allowed.

DECISION:

The decision of the representative dated July 27, 2017, reference 01, is reversed. Claimant is eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits, provided claimant meets all other eligibility requirements.

Blair A. Bennett
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

bab/rvs