IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

TIMOTHY J SCHMIT Claimant

APPEAL 19A-UI-05079-DG-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

EXPRESS SERVICES INC Employer

> OC: 12/23/18 Claimant: Respondent (1R)

lowa Code § 96.4(3) – Ability to and Availability for Work lowa Code § 96.19(38)a & b – Total and Partial Unemployment lowa Code § 96.7(2)a(2) – Same Base Period Employment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Employer filed an appeal from a decision of a representative dated June 13, 2019, (reference 04) that held claimant able to and available for work. After due notice, a hearing was scheduled for and held on July 19, 2019. Employer participated by Mike Depp, Staffing Coordinator. Claimant failed to respond to the hearing notice and did not participate.

ISSUES:

Is the claimant able to and available for work? Is the claimant partially unemployed?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having heard the testimony and having reviewed the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant began working for employer as a full-time employee on August 2, 2018. He was last assigned at Con-trol Container. Claimant was laid off work by that employer beginning on May 5, 2019 through May 11, 2019.

Claimant was able and available to work his regular hours for the period from May 5, 2019 to May 11, 2019 but was scheduled to work fewer hours than contemplated at hire. Claimant reported gross wages each week during which benefits were claimed.

Claimant's employment was later terminated by employer on or about June 10, 2019 because claimant violated employer's attendance policy. That separation has not been adjudicated, and should be remanded to the claims department for a fact-finding hearing and determination.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes that the claimant is partially unemployed and is able to work and available for work.

Iowa Code section 96.4(3) provides:

An unemployed individual shall be eligible to receive benefits with respect to any week only if the department finds that:

3. The individual is able to work, is available for work, and is earnestly and actively seeking work. This subsection is waived if the individual is deemed partially unemployed, while employed at the individual's regular job, as defined in section 96.19, subsection 38, paragraph "b", unnumbered paragraph (1), or temporarily unemployed as defined in section 96.19, subsection 38, paragraph "c". The work search requirements of this subsection and the disqualification requirement for failure to apply for, or to accept suitable work of section 96.5, subsection 3 are waived if the individual is not disqualified for benefits under section 96.5, subsection 1, paragraph "h".

Iowa Code section 96.19(38) provides:

"Total and partial unemployment".

a. An individual shall be deemed "*totally unemployed*" in any week with respect to which no wages are payable to the individual and during which the individual performs no services.

b. An individual shall be deemed partially unemployed in any week in which either of the following apply:

(1) While employed at the individual's then regular job, the individual works less than the regular full-time week and in which the individual earns less than the individual's weekly benefit amount plus fifteen dollars.

(2) The individual, having been separated from the individual's regular job, earns at odd jobs less than the individual's weekly benefit amount plus fifteen dollars.

c. An individual shall be deemed temporarily unemployed if for a period, verified by the department, not to exceed four consecutive weeks, the individual is unemployed due to a plant shutdown, vacation, inventory, lack of work or emergency from the individual's regular job or trade in which the individual worked full-time and will again work full-time, if the individual's employment, although temporarily suspended, has not been terminated.

lowa Code section 96.7(2)a(2)(a), (b), and (c) provides:

2. Contribution rates based on benefit experience.

a. (2) The amount of regular benefits plus fifty percent of the amount of extended benefits paid to an eligible individual shall be charged against the account of the employers in the base period in the inverse chronological order in which the employment of the individual occurred.

(a) However, if the individual to whom the benefits are paid is in the employ of a base period employer at the time the individual is receiving the benefits, and the individual is receiving the same employment from the employer that the individual received during the individual's base period, benefits paid to the individual shall not be charged against the account of the employer. This provision applies to both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding subparagraph (3) and section 96.8, subsection 5.

(b) An employer's account shall not be charged with benefits paid to an individual who left the work of the employer voluntarily without good cause attributable to the employer or to an individual who was discharged for misconduct in connection with the individual's employment, or to an individual who failed without good cause, either to apply for available, suitable work or to accept suitable work with that employer, but shall be charged to the unemployment compensation fund. This paragraph applies to both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

(c) The amount of benefits paid to an individual, which is solely due to wage credits considered to be in an individual's base period due to the exclusion and substitution of calendar quarters from the individual's base period under section 96.23, shall be charged against the account of the employer responsible for paying the workers' compensation benefits for temporary total disability or during a healing period under section 85.33, section 85.34, subsection 1, or section 85A.17, or responsible for paying indemnity insurance benefits.

Since employer did not provide claimant with regular full-time hours as contemplated at hire, partial benefits are allowed.

DECISION:

The June 13, 2019, (reference 04) unemployment insurance decision is affirmed. The claimant is able to work and available for work effective May 5, 2019. Benefits are allowed, provided he is otherwise eligible.

REMAND: The separation issue is remanded to the Benefits Bureau of Iowa Workforce Development for a fact-finding interview and unemployment insurance decision.

Duane L. Golden Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

dlg/scn