IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

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

 CAROLYN L POWER

 Claimant

 APPEAL NO. 11A-UI-12322-S2T

 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

 DECISION

OC: 09/12/10 Claimant: Appellant (2)

871 IAC 24.1(113)a – Separations From Employment Section 96.5-1 – Voluntary Leaving - Layoff

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Carolyn Power (claimant) appealed a representative's September 14, 2011 decision (reference 02) that concluded she was not eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits because she voluntarily quit work with Marketlink (employer). After hearing notices were mailed to the parties' last-known addresses of record, a telephone hearing was scheduled for October 10, 2011. The claimant participated personally. The employer participated by Amy Potratz, Human Resources Manager.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant was separated from employment for any disqualifying reason.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds that: The claimant was hired in the Fall of 2010, as a full-time sales representative. The claimant worked full-time hours until January 2011. The employer reduced the claimant's hours due to client demand. The claimant brought her lack of hours to her supervisor's attention two or three times. As of January 24, 2011, the employer stopped scheduling the claimant. The claimant filed for unemployment insurance benefits on September 11, 2011.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant was laid off due to a lack of work.

Iowa Code § 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 24.1(113)a provides:

Separations. All terminations of employment, generally classifiable as layoffs, quits, discharges, or other separations.

a. Layoffs. A layoff is a suspension from pay status (lasting or expected to last more than seven consecutive calendar days without pay) initiated by the employer without prejudice to the worker for such reasons as: lack of orders, model changeover, termination of seasonal or temporary employment, inventory-taking, introduction of laborsaving devices, plant breakdown, shortage of materials; including temporarily furloughed employees and employees placed on unpaid vacations.

The employer laid the claimant off for lack of work. When an employer suspends a claimant from work status for a period of time, the separation does not prejudice the claimant. The claimant's separation was attributable to a lack of work by the employer. The claimant is eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits for that period.

The claimant's and the employer's testimony is inconsistent. The administrative law judge finds the claimant's testimony to be more credible. The employer did not provide a witness with first-hand knowledge to support its case.

DECISION:

The representative's September 14, 2011 decision (reference 02) is reversed. The claimant's separation was attributable to a lack of work by the employer. The claimant is eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits for that period.

Beth A. Scheetz Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

bas/pjs