

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND APPEALS
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS DIVISION, UI APPEALS BUREAU**

ROMAN FATKHIYEV
Claimant

CRST VAN EXPEDITED INC
Employer

APPEAL NO. 23A-UI-04204-B2T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**OC: 03/12/23
Claimant: Appellant (1)**

Iowa Code § 96.5-1 – Voluntary Quit

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Claimant filed an appeal from a decision of a representative dated April 13, 2023, (reference 01) which held claimant ineligible for unemployment insurance benefits. After due notice, a hearing was scheduled for and held on May 10, 2023. Claimant participated. Employer failed to respond to the hearing notice and did not participate.

ISSUE:

The issue in this matter is whether claimant quit for good cause attributable to employer.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds: Claimant last worked for employer on February 25, 2023. Claimant voluntarily quit on that date, as he was frustrated with the lack of support offered by local business where claimant was charged with unloading his truck full of goods.

Claimant worked as a full time truck driver for employer delivering to Family Dollar stores. Claimant was responsible for unloading his boxes of goods off the trailer such that local store employees could then load those items into the store. In order to do so, claimant stated that the store was responsible for getting rollers set up attached to the truck such that claimant could remove items from the truck.

Claimant stated that he quit because of safety concerns and a lack of cooperation from local store employees. Claimant was injured working and was off from work for approximately nine months. Claimant came back to work in late 2022. He was asked to do the same tasks he'd been doing before the accident.

Claimant complained to employer that stores were not acting in the manners that they were supposed to in order to aid in the unloading of items. From a lack of shoveling and removing ice to an unwillingness to line up rollers outside of the truck, to having trash around dumpsters and not having sand spread out claimant felt that the unloading was not safe.

Claimant had no accidents that resulted from the icy decisions or lack of willingness for individuals to their parts in lining up the rollers to the truck claimant drove.

Claimant stated that even after his complaints, the stores did not change their actions towards unloading his vehicles.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code section 96.5(1) 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.

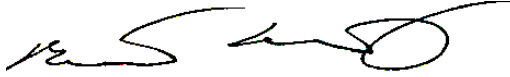
The administrative law judge holds that the evidence has failed to establish that claimant voluntarily quit for good cause attributable to employer when claimant terminated the employment relationship because he believed that the Family Dollar stores to which he delivered products were not safe to unload those products.

Ordinarily "good cause" is derived from the facts of each case keeping in mind the public policy stated in Iowa Code Section 96.2. *O'Brien v. EAB* 494 N.W.2d 660, 662 (Iowa 1993) (citing *Wiese v. IA Dept. of Job Serv.*, 389 N.W.2d 676, 680 (Iowa 1986)). "The term encompasses real circumstances, adequate excuses that will bear the test of reason, just grounds for the action, and always the test of good faith." *Wiese v. IA Dept. of Job Serv.*, 389 N.W.2d 676, 680 (Iowa 1986). "Common sense and prudence must be exercised in evaluating all of the circumstances that led to an employee's quit in order to attribute the cause for the termination." *Id.* In this matter, claimant testified that he was working in the Minnesota region in the winter. During that time, there was often icy conditions that will require greater care by all parties. Claimant's complaints about the icy conditions and a lack of sand used are attributable to the conditions that would be common during the time when claimant quit his position. Claimant showed no documentation of any complaints forwarded to employer. Additionally, claimant's argument about the setting up of rollers off the truck being the responsibility of the store runs counter to claimant's statement that he is responsible for unloading items from the truck. If it is claimant's responsibility to unload items from the truck, it is not clear why it is the store's responsibility to set up a roller for claimant to do his job. Claimant also complained about trash around dumpsters, but gave no explanation as to why this was relevant for him unloading his truck.

As the claimant has not carried his burden of proof that his quit was with good cause attributable to employer, benefits are denied.

DECISION:

The decision of the representative dated April 13, 2023, (reference 01) is affirmed. Unemployment insurance benefits shall be withheld until claimant has worked in and been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times claimant's weekly benefit amount, provided claimant is otherwise eligible.



Blair Bennett | Administrative Law Judge II
Iowa Department of Inspections & Appeals

May 12, 2023
Decision Dated and Mailed

bab/scn

APPEAL RIGHTS. If you disagree with the decision, you or any interested party may:

1. Appeal to the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days of the date under the judge's signature by submitting a written appeal via mail, fax, or online to:

**Employment Appeal Board
4th Floor – Lucas Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Fax: (515)281-7191
Online: eab.iowa.gov**

The appeal period will be extended to the next business day if the last day to appeal falls on a weekend or a legal holiday. *There is no filing fee to file an appeal with the Employment Appeal Board.*

AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD SHALL STATE CLEARLY:

- 1) The name, address, and social security number of the claimant.
- 2) A reference to the decision from which the appeal is taken.
- 3) That an appeal from such decision is being made and such appeal is signed.
- 4) The grounds upon which such appeal is based.

An Employment Appeal Board decision is final agency action. If a party disagrees with the Employment Appeal Board decision, they may file a petition for judicial review in district court.

2. If you do not file an appeal of the judge's decision with the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days, the decision becomes final agency action, and you have the option to file a petition for judicial review in District Court within thirty (30) days after the decision becomes final. Additional information on how to file a petition can be found at www.iowacourts.gov/efile. *There may be a filing fee to file the petition in District Court.*

Note to Parties: YOU MAY REPRESENT yourself in the appeal or obtain a lawyer or other interested party to do so provided there is no expense to Workforce Development. If you wish to be represented by a lawyer, you may obtain the services of either a private attorney or one whose services are paid for with public funds.

Note to Claimant: It is important that you file your weekly claim as directed, while this appeal is pending, to protect your continuing right to benefits.

SERVICE INFORMATION:

A true and correct copy of this decision was mailed to each of the parties listed.

DERECHOS DE APELACIÓN. Si no está de acuerdo con la decisión, usted o cualquier parte interesada puede:

1. Apelar a la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo dentro de los quince (15) días de la fecha bajo la firma del juez presentando una apelación por escrito por correo, fax o en línea a:

**Employment Appeal Board
4th Floor – Lucas Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Fax: (515)281-7191
En línea: eab.iowa.gov**

El período de apelación se extenderá hasta el siguiente día hábil si el último día para apelar cae en fin de semana o día feriado legal. *No hay tarifa de presentación para presentar una apelación ante la Junta de Apelación de Empleo.*

UNA APELACIÓN A LA JUNTA DEBE ESTABLECER CLARAMENTE:

- 1) El nombre, dirección y número de seguro social del reclamante.
- 2) Una referencia a la decisión de la que se toma la apelación.
- 3) Que se interponga recurso de apelación contra tal decisión y se firme dicho recurso.
- 4) Los fundamentos en que se funda dicho recurso.

Una decisión de la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo es una acción final de la agencia. Si una de las partes no está de acuerdo con la decisión de la Junta de Apelación de Empleo, puede presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el tribunal de distrito.

2. Si no presenta una apelación de la decisión del juez ante la Junta de Apelación de Empleo dentro de los quince (15) días, la decisión se convierte en una acción final de la agencia y tiene la opción de presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el Tribunal de Distrito dentro de los treinta (30) días. Puede encontrar información adicional sobre cómo presentar una petición en www.iowacourts.gov/efile. *Puede haber una tarifa de presentación para presentar la petición en el Tribunal de Distrito.*

Nota para las partes: USTED PUEDE REPRESENTARSE en la apelación u obtener un abogado u otra parte interesada para que lo haga, siempre que no haya gastos para Workforce Development. Si desea ser representado por un abogado, puede obtener los servicios de un abogado privado o uno cuyos servicios se paguen con fondos públicos.

Nota para el reclamante: es importante que presente su reclamo semanal según las instrucciones, mientras esta apelación está pendiente, para proteger su derecho continuo a los beneficios.

SERVICIO DE INFORMACIÓN:

Se envió por correo una copia fiel y correcta de esta decisión a cada una de las partes enumeradas.