

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

BOBBY WALKER
Claimant

**L A LEASING
SEDONA STAFFING**
Employer

APPEAL NO. 10A-UI-00844-BT

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**Original Claim: 12/06/09
Claimant: Appellant (1)**

Iowa Code § 96.5-1-j - Voluntary Quit of Temporary Employment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Bobby Walker (claimant) appealed an unemployment insurance decision dated January 8, 2010, reference 01, which held that he was not eligible for unemployment insurance benefits because he voluntarily quit his employment with Sedona Staffing (employer) without good cause attributable to the employer. After hearing notices were mailed to the parties' last-known addresses of record, a telephone hearing was held on February 25, 2010. The claimant participated in the hearing. The employer participated through Colleen McGuinty, Unemployment Benefits Administrator. Based on the evidence, the arguments of the parties, and the law, the administrative law judge enters the following findings of fact, reasoning and conclusions of law, and decision.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant failed to contact the temporary employment agency within three working days after the completion of his assignment when notified of this requirement at the time of hire?

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 as a temporary general laborer on January 2006. At the time of hire, the claimant signed an availability statement that advised him of the requirement to check in for additional work after the completion of an assignment. The employer requires employees to check in within three working days after an assignment ends to provide the employer notification of the claimant's availability, and failure to do so would be considered as a voluntary quit. The claimant was given a copy of the availability statement, which is not part of the application or contract of employment.

The claimant knew he was required to check in for additional work after the completion of his last work assignment. He completed his last work assignment on July 1, 2009 and the employer has no record of him checking in for additional work until August 24, 2009. The claimant may have picked up his paycheck but that was not sufficient to advise the employer he

was available for more work. The claimant was considered to have voluntarily quit his employment as of July 6, 2009.

The employer contacted the claimant and offered him work on July 8, July 13, and August 4, 2009 but he declined these offers due to health issues.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The issue in this case is whether the reasons for the claimant's separation from employment qualify him to receive unemployment insurance benefits. The claimant is not qualified to receive unemployment insurance benefits if he voluntarily quit without good cause attributable to the employer or if the employer discharged him for work-connected misconduct. Iowa Code §§ 96.5-1 and 96.5-2-a. The employer herein is a temporary employment agency and temporary employment agencies are governed by Iowa Code § 96.5-1-j, which places specific restrictions on both the employer and the employee with regard to qualification for unemployment insurance benefits after a voluntary separation.

Iowa Code section 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. 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.

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.

For the purposes of this paragraph:

(1) "Temporary employee" means an individual who is employed by a temporary employment firm to provide services to clients to supplement their work force during absences, seasonal workloads, temporary skill or labor market shortages, and for special assignments and projects.

(2) "Temporary employment firm" means a person engaged in the business of employing temporary employees.

The evidence indicates the claimant knew or should have known he was required to contact the employer after the completion of his last assignment so the employer knew whether he was available for additional assignments. The claimant did not advise the employer he was available for additional work and did not request additional work until August 24, 2009. The claimant's testimony was somewhat inconsistent, and he admitted he had difficulty remembering since it occurred so long ago. His answers, however, became more decisive the longer he testified. Consequently, the administrative law judge found the employer's evidence more credible. The claimant did not satisfy the requirements of Iowa Code § 96.5-1-j and is disqualified from receiving unemployment insurance benefits as of December 12, 2009.

DECISION:

The unemployment insurance decision dated January 8, 2010, reference 01, is affirmed. The claimant voluntarily left work without good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until he has worked in and has been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times his weekly benefit amount, provided he is otherwise eligible.

Susan D. Ackerman
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

sda/kjw