

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

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**CARRIE L BROWN**  
Claimant

**EXPRESS SERVICES INC**  
Employer

**APPEAL 17A-UI-04860-H2T**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**OC: 05/22/16  
Claimant: Respondent (1)**

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

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

The employer filed an appeal from the April 27, 2017, (reference 04) unemployment insurance decision that allowed benefits. The parties were properly notified about the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on May 25, 2017. Claimant did not participate. Employer participated through Madie Jantsch, Administrative Recruiter.

**ISSUES:**

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

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant was last assigned to work at Sedgwick full time beginning on December 19, 2016 through March 31, 2017 when she completed her assignment. On March 16, 2017, prior to the assignment ending the claimant e-mailed the employer and told them specifically that her assignment was going to end on March 31, 2017. The employment file the employer maintained for the claimant does not contain a copy of any notice signed by the claimant indicating she had been told she was required to seek another assignment from the employer within three working days of the end of an assignment.

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily left employment with good cause attributable to the employer and adequately notified employer of her availability for additional assignments.

Iowa Code § 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. (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 Iowa 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, and claimant did notify the employer prior to the assignment ending that she would need more work, the administrative law judge concludes claimant was free to opt to look for work elsewhere or to report for additional work when she did. The purpose of the statute is to provide notice to the temporary agency employer that the claimant is available for work at the conclusion of the temporary assignment. In this case, the employer had notice of the claimant's availability because she emailed them with specific information telling them when her assignment would end. Under these circumstances, benefits are allowed, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible.

**DECISION:**

The April 27, 2017, (reference 04) decision is affirmed. The claimant's separation from employment was attributable to the employer. The claimant had adequate contact with the employer about her availability as required by statute. Benefits are allowed, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible.

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Teresa K. Hillary  
Administrative Law Judge

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Decision Dated and Mailed

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