

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Unemployment Insurance Appeals Section
1000 East Grand—Des Moines, Iowa 50319
DECISION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
68-0157 (7-97) – 3091078 - EI

BRIAN HANCOCK
13656 BMR LN
DUBUQUE IA 52002

BERNS MASONRY INC
13656 BMR LN
DUBUQUE IA 52002-9468

Appeal Number: 04A-UI-00447-ET
OC 01-19-03 R 04
Claimant: Appellant (4)

This Decision Shall Become Final, unless within fifteen (15) days from the date below, you or any interested party appeal to the Employment Appeal Board by submitting either a signed letter or a signed written Notice of Appeal, directly to the **Employment Appeal Board, 2nd Floor—Lucas Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.**

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.

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.

YOU MAY REPRESENT yourself in this appeal or you may 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. It is important that you file your claim as directed, while this appeal is pending, to protect your continuing right to benefits.

(Administrative Law Judge)

(Decision Dated & Mailed)

Section 96.5-1-a – Voluntary Leaving – Other Employment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed a timely appeal from a representative's decision dated January 7, 2004, reference 01, that denied benefits. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held by telephone conference call before Administrative Law Judge Julie Elder on February 4, 2004. The claimant participated in the hearing. Cindy Berns, Secretary/Treasurer, participated in the hearing on behalf of the employer.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having heard the testimony and having examined the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant was employed as a full-time laborer for Berns Masonry from

July 2, 2001 to August 29, 2003. He left employment with Berns Masonry to accept other employment at Bush Brothers Masonry.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily left his employment to accept employment elsewhere.

Iowa Code Section 96.5-1-a 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:

a. The individual left employment in good faith for the sole purpose of accepting other or better employment, which the individual did accept, and the individual performed services in the new employment. Benefits relating to wage credits earned with the employer that the individual has left shall be charged to the unemployment compensation fund. This paragraph applies to both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

Even though the separation was without good cause attributable to the employer and would, standing alone, disqualify the claimant from receiving benefits, the claimant left in order to accept other employment and did perform services for the subsequent employer. Accordingly, benefits are allowed and the account of Berns Masonry shall not be charged.

DECISION:

The January 7, 2004, reference 01, decision is modified in favor of the appellant. The claimant voluntarily left his employment in order to accept other employment. Benefits are allowed, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible. The account of Berns Masonry shall not be charged.

je/b