# IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

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

**CHAD E VEACH** 

Claimant

APPEAL NO. 10A-EUCU-01063-HT

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

**TPI IOWA LLC** 

Employer

OC: 05/16/10

Claimant: Respondent (2-R)

Section 96.5(1) – Quit

#### STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The employer, TPI lowa, filed an appeal from a decision dated November 2, 2010, reference 03. The decision allowed benefits to the claimant, Chad Veach. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held by telephone conference call on December 22, 2010. The claimant did not provide a telephone number where he could be contacted and did not participate. The employer participated by Human Resources Director Terri Rock and Shift Leader Byron Coleman.

### **ISSUE:**

The issue is whether the claimant quit work with good cause attributable to the employer.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT:

Chad Veach was employed by TPI from January 25, 2010 until September 30, 2010 as a full-time production worker. His last day of work was Monday, September 27, 2010, and he was no-call/no-show to work for the next three days.

After the start of his shift on September 30, 2010, Mr. Veach came to the front desk to pick up his paycheck. Shift Leader Byron Coleman spoke with him at that time to ask why he had not been at work the last three days. The claimant said he was working 12-hour shifts at John Deere. Mr. Coleman wished him luck and left.

The records of Iowa Workforce Development indicate the claimant filed an additional claim for benefits with an effective date of September 26, 2010, and filed a weekly claim through December 4, 2010. He did not report any wages during that ten-week period.

#### **REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

Iowa Code section 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 24.25(4) provides:

Voluntary quit without good cause. In general, a voluntary quit means discontinuing the employment because the employee no longer desires to remain in the relationship of an employee with the employer from whom the employee has separated. The employer has the burden of proving that the claimant is disqualified for benefits pursuant to lowa Code section 96.5. However, the claimant has the initial burden to produce evidence that the claimant is not disqualified for benefits in cases involving lowa Code section 96.5, subsection (1), paragraphs "a" through "i," and subsection 10. The following reasons for a voluntary quit shall be presumed to be without good cause attributable to the employer:

(4) The claimant was absent for three days without giving notice to employer in violation of company rule.

The claimant is considered a voluntary quit without good cause attributable to the employer for being no-call/no-show to work for three days. His assertion he was working for John Deere cannot be confirmed, as Mr. Veach did not participate in the hearing. The administrative law judge finds this unlikely in any event, due to the fact the claimant filed for unemployment benefits and reported no wages for the next ten weeks. The claimant is disqualified.

Iowa Code section 96.3-7, as amended in 2008, provides:

- 7. Recovery of overpayment of benefits.
- a. If an individual receives benefits for which the individual is subsequently determined to be ineligible, even though the individual acts in good faith and is not otherwise at fault, the benefits shall be recovered. The department in its discretion may recover the overpayment of benefits either by having a sum equal to the overpayment deducted from any future benefits payable to the individual or by having the individual pay to the department a sum equal to the overpayment.
- b. (1) If the department determines that an overpayment has been made, the charge for the overpayment against the employer's account shall be removed and the account shall be credited with an amount equal to the overpayment from the unemployment compensation trust fund and this credit shall include both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5. However, provided the benefits were not received as the result of fraud or willful misrepresentation by the individual, benefits shall not be recovered from an individual if the employer did not participate in the initial determination to award benefits pursuant to section 96.6, subsection 2, and an overpayment occurred because of a subsequent reversal on appeal regarding the issue of the individual's separation from employment. The employer shall not be charged with the benefits.
- (2) An accounting firm, agent, unemployment insurance accounting firm, or other entity that represents an employer in unemployment claim matters and demonstrates a continuous pattern of failing to participate in the initial determinations to award benefits, as determined and defined by rule by the department, shall be denied permission by the department to represent any employers in unemployment insurance matters. This

subparagraph does not apply to attorneys or counselors admitted to practice in the courts of this state pursuant to section 602.10101.

The claimant has received unemployment benefits to which he is not entitled. The question of whether the claimant must repay these benefits is remanded to the UIS division.

#### **DECISION:**

bgh/kjw

The representative's decision of November 2, 2010, reference 03, is reversed. Chad Veach is disqualified and benefits are withheld until he has earned ten times his weekly benefit amount, provided he is otherwise eligible. The issue of whether the claimant must repay the unemployment benefits is remanded to UIS division for determination.

Bonny G. Hendricksmeyer
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed