

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

BRIAN LASKOWSKI
Claimant

APPEAL NO. 11A-UI-11589 -VST

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

PEOPLES COURT LTD
Employer

OC: 07/24/11
Claimant: Appellant (4)

Iowa Code § 96.4(3) – Able and Available
Iowa Code § 96.19(38)a & b – Total and Partial Unemployment
Iowa Code § 96.7(2)a(2) – Same Base Period Employment
871 IAC 24.22(2)f – Part-Time Worker - Able and Available

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed an appeal from a decision of a representative dated August 29, 2011, reference 02, which held claimant ineligible for unemployment insurance benefits. After due notice, a telephone conference hearing was scheduled for and held on September 26, 2011. Claimant participated. Employer participated by Tom Smulik, owner. The record consists of the testimony of Brian Laskowski. No testimony was taken from Tom Smulik. Official notice is taken of agency records.

ISSUE:

Whether the claimant is able and available for work effective July 24, 2011.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony of the witnesses and having considered all of the evidence in the record, makes the following findings of fact:

The claimant is a part-time employee of the employer. He began working for the employer in August 2004. He works between 6 and 14 hours per week for the employer. The claimant also had a job with August Home Publishing, which he began in October 2010. The claimant worked as a sales associate. His hours varied from 30 to 33 hours per week. He was paid \$11.00 per hour. He was laid off from this job in mid July due to lack of work.

The claimant established his claim for benefits on July 24, 2011, as a result of the layoff from August Home Publishing.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant is partially unemployed and the part-time employer is relieved of benefit charges for the period beginning July 24, 2011.

Iowa Code § 96.4-3 provides:

An unemployed individual shall be eligible to receive benefits with respect to any week only if the department finds that:

3. The individual is able to work, is available for work, and is earnestly and actively seeking work. This subsection is waived if the individual is deemed partially unemployed, while employed at the individual's regular job, as defined in section 96.19, subsection 38, paragraph "b", unnumbered paragraph 1, or temporarily unemployed as defined in section 96.19, subsection 38, paragraph "c". The work search requirements of this subsection and the disqualification requirement for failure to apply for, or to accept suitable work of section 96.5, subsection 3 are waived if the individual is not disqualified for benefits under section 96.5, subsection 1, paragraph "h".

Iowa Code § 96.19-38 provides:

"Total and partial unemployment".

a. An individual shall be deemed "totally unemployed" in any week with respect to which no wages are payable to the individual and during which the individual performs no services.

b. An individual shall be deemed partially unemployed in any week in which, while employed at the individual's then regular job, the individual works less than the regular full-time week and in which the individual earns less than the individual's weekly benefit amount plus fifteen dollars.

An individual shall be deemed partially unemployed in any week in which the individual, having been separated from the individual's regular job, earns at odd jobs less than the individual's weekly benefit amount plus fifteen dollars.

c. An individual shall be deemed temporarily unemployed if for a period, verified by the department, not to exceed four consecutive weeks, the individual is unemployed due to a plant shutdown, vacation, inventory, lack of work or emergency from the individual's regular job or trade in which the individual worked full-time and will again work full-time, if the individual's employment, although temporarily suspended, has not been terminated.

Iowa Code § 96.7-2-a(2) provides:

2. Contribution rates based on benefit experience.

a. (2) The amount of regular benefits plus fifty percent of the amount of extended benefits paid to an eligible individual shall be charged against the account of the employers in the base period in the inverse chronological order in which the employment of the individual occurred.

However, if the individual to whom the benefits are paid is in the employ of a base period employer at the time the individual is receiving the benefits, and the individual is receiving the same employment from the employer that the individual received during the individual's base period, benefits paid to the individual shall not be charged against the account of the employer. This provision applies to both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding subparagraph (3) and section 96.8, subsection 5.

An employer's account shall not be charged with benefits paid to an individual who left the work of the employer voluntarily without good cause attributable to the employer or to an individual who was discharged for misconduct in connection with the individual's employment, or to an individual who failed without good cause, either to apply for available,

suitable work or to accept suitable work with that employer, but shall be charged to the unemployment compensation fund. This paragraph applies to both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

The amount of benefits paid to an individual, which is solely due to wage credits considered to be in an individual's base period due to the exclusion and substitution of calendar quarters from the individual's base period under section 96.23, shall be charged against the account of the employer responsible for paying the workers' compensation benefits for temporary total disability or during a healing period under section 85.33, section 85.34, subsection 1, or section 85A.17, or responsible for paying indemnity insurance benefits.

871 IAC 23.43(4)a provides in part:

(4) Supplemental employment.

a. An individual, who has been separated with cause attributable to the regular employer and who remains in the employ of the individual's part-time, base period employer, continues to be eligible for benefits as long as the individual is receiving the same employment from the part-time employer that the individual received during the base period. The part-time employer's account, including the reimbursable employer's account, may be relieved of benefit charges....

Because the claimant has other base period wages, some of which were full-time, and is currently employed part-time, he is considered partially unemployed. Partial benefits may be allowed if he is otherwise eligible.

DECISION:

The August 29, 2011 (reference 02) decision is modified in favor of the appellant. The claimant is partially unemployed and benefits are allowed, provided he is otherwise eligible. The account of the current part-time employer (account number 354382) shall not be charged.

Vicki L. Seeck
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

vls/kjw