

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

TASHA YOUNG
Claimant

APPEAL NO: 19A-UI-03569-JE-T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

WALMART INC
Employer

OC: 04/07/19
Claimant: Appellant (1)

Section 96.5-1 – Voluntary Leaving
871 IAC 24.25(2) – Voluntary Quit to Move

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed a timely appeal from the April 26, 2019, reference 01, decision that denied benefits. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held by telephone conference call before Administrative Law Judge Julie Elder on May 20, 2019. The claimant participated in the hearing. Robert Lisenbee, Manager, participated in the hearing on behalf of the employer.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant voluntarily left her employment to move.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant was employed as a part-time overnight stocker for WalMart from September 17, 2016 to March 17, 2019. She gave the employer a 30 day notice February 28, 2019, that she was voluntarily quitting to move to Illinois to be closer to her mother and grandmother who have health issues. She looked online for transfer opportunities but did not follow the formal transfer procedure. Her mother needed surgery before the claimant was scheduled to move and consequently her last day of work was March 15, 2019. Continued work was available with this employer, had the claimant not voluntarily left her employment.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily left her employment without good cause attributable to the employer.

Iowa Code § 96.5-1 provides:

An individual shall be disqualified for benefits, regardless of the source of the individual's wage credits:

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.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.25(2) 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 Iowa 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 Iowa 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:

(2) The claimant moved to a different locality.

The claimant has the burden of proving that the voluntary leaving was for good cause attributable to the employer. Iowa Code § 96.6(2). In order for benefits to be allowed, the reason for leaving must be due to unlawful, intolerable or detrimental working conditions created by the employer.

While the claimant's decision to quit to move to Illinois was based upon good personal reasons, she has not demonstrated a good-cause reason attributable to the employer for her leaving. (Emphasis added). Therefore, benefits must be denied.

DECISION:

The April 26, 2019, reference 01, decision is affirmed. The claimant voluntarily left her employment without good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until such time as she has worked in and been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times her weekly benefit amount, provided she is otherwise eligible.

Julie Elder
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

je/scn