

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

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

**TERRENCE M OCONNOR**  
Claimant

**APPEAL NO: 18A-UI-05426-JE-T**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**QWEST CORPORATION**  
Employer

**OC: 04/08/18  
Claimant: Appellant (4)**

Section 96.5-1 a – Voluntary Leaving – Other Employment

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

The claimant filed a timely appeal from the May 4, 2018, 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 31, 2018. The claimant participated in the hearing. Jon Willard, Consumer Repair Supervisor and Tom Kuiper, Employer Representative, participated in the hearing on behalf of the employer.

**ISSUE:**

The issue is whether the claimant voluntarily left his employment to accept employment elsewhere.

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant was employed as a full-time repair service attendant for Qwest Corporation from September 15, 2014 to October 13, 2017. Continued work was available. The claimant left employment with Qwest to accept other employment at Nationwide Home Remodels and performed services for that employer.

**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 § 96.5-1-a 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. 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 did leave in order to accept other employment and did perform services for the subsequent employer. Accordingly, benefits are allowed and the account of Qwest Corporation shall not be charged.

**DECISION:**

The May 4, 2018, 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 this employer (Qwest Corporation) shall not be charged.

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Julie Elder  
Administrative Law Judge

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Decision Dated and Mailed

je/scn