

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

JESSICA GARDNER
Claimant

APPEAL NO: 16A-UI-08650-JE-T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

OC: 06/12/16
Claimant: Appellant (2)

Section 96.4-3 - Adequate Work Search

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed a timely appeal from the August 2, 2016, reference 03, decision warning that she may be disqualified for future weeks in which benefits are claimed and fewer than two in-person job contacts are made. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held before Administrative Law Judge Julie Elder on August 26, 2016. The claimant participated in the hearing.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant filed a claim for unemployment insurance benefits with an effective date of June 12, 2016. During the week ending July 30, 2016, the claimant indicated she did not make any work searches. The claimant was offered and accepted a position with Athene July 21, 2016, and accepted the job July 22, 2016. Consequently, she did not make any work searches the week ending July 30, 2016.

ISSUE:

Whether the claimant failed to make an active and earnest search for work?

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

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".

The claimant is obligated to make at least two in-person work searches during each week benefits are claimed. In this case, however, the claimant accepted an offer of work July 22, 2016, to start August 1, 2016, and therefore she was not required to continue looking for work. The warning was inappropriate as the claimant did not need to make work searches after she secured new employment July 22, 2016.

DECISION:

The August 2, 2016, reference 03, decision is reversed. The decision warning the claimant to conduct at least two in-person work searches during each week benefits are claimed was inappropriate.

Julie Elder
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

je/pjs