IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

ADAM M CLARK Claimant

APPEAL 14A-UI-11392-LT

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

L A LEASING INC SEDONA GROUP Employer

> OC: 10/05/14 Claimant: Respondent (1)

Iowa Code § 96.5(1)j - Voluntary Quitting - Temporary Employment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The employer filed an appeal from the October 28, 2014, (reference 03) unemployment insurance decision that allowed benefits based upon a discharge from employment. The parties were properly notified about the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on November 24, 2014. Claimant participated. Employer participated through risk administrative assistant Maria Mays and account manager Shelby Kingery.

ISSUE:

Did the claimant quit by not reporting for an additional work assignment within three business days of the end of the last assignment?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant was employed full-time assigned on light duty at the Sedona office as a clerk from August 8, 2014, and was separated from employment on September 2, 2014. He was released to regular duty on September 2. He called Clinton Engineering to see about returning to work there. They referred him to Sedona and he presented the note at Sedona. He spoke with Melissa on September 3 who told him that Clinton Engineering, where he had last worked on August 6, 2014, did not need his services any longer and they were not hiring at the moment. He asked Melissa if they had any jobs open and she said she would contact him. On September 3 he fell down steps at home and had a concussion triggered by a muscle spasm claimant attributes to an unhealed work injury from August 2014. He went to the hospital where he was treated and released. He contacted Sedona on September 4 and spoke with Katie, Melissa and then Kingery. He provided the medical information and was told Sedona could not do anything about it since the workers' compensation case was closed with the medical release on September 2. He waited to file for unemployment insurance benefits because he thought Melissa would call him back to work. She did not.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant's separation was with good cause attributable to the employer.

Iowa Code § 96.5-1-j 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, but the individual shall not be disqualified if the department finds that:

j. The individual is a temporary employee of a temporary employment firm who notifies the temporary employment firm of completion of an employment assignment and who seeks reassignment. Failure of the individual to notify the temporary employment firm of completion of an employment assignment within three working days of the completion of each employment assignment under a contract of hire shall be deemed a voluntary quit unless the individual was not advised in writing of the duty to notify the temporary employment firm upon completion of an employment assignment or the individual had good cause for not contacting the temporary employment firm within three working days and notified the firm at the first reasonable opportunity thereafter.

To show that the employee was advised in writing of the notification requirement of this paragraph, the temporary employment firm shall advise the temporary employee by requiring the temporary employee, at the time of employment with the temporary employment firm, to read and sign a document that provides a clear and concise explanation of the notification requirement and the consequences of a failure to notify. The document shall be separate from any contract of employment and a copy of the signed document shall be provided to the temporary employee.

For the purposes of this paragraph:

(1) "Temporary employee" means an individual who is employed by a temporary employment firm to provide services to clients to supplement their work force during absences, seasonal workloads, temporary skill or labor market shortages, and for special assignments and projects.

(2) "Temporary employment firm" means a person engaged in the business of employing temporary employees.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.26(19) provides:

Voluntary quit with good cause attributable to the employer and separations not considered to be voluntary quits. The following are reasons for a claimant leaving employment with good cause attributable to the employer:

(19) The claimant was employed on a temporary basis for assignment to spot jobs or casual labor work and fulfilled the contract of hire when each of the jobs was completed. An election not to report for a new assignment to work shall not be construed as a voluntary leaving of employment. The issue of a refusal of an offer of suitable work shall be adjudicated when an offer of work is made by the former employer. The provisions of

lowa Code section 96.5(3) and rule 24.24(96) are controlling in the determination of suitability of work. However, this subrule shall not apply to substitute school employees who are subject to the provisions of Iowa Code section 96.4(5) which denies benefits that are based on service in an educational institution when the individual declines or refuses to accept a new contract or reasonable assurance of continued employment status. Under this circumstance, the substitute school employee shall be considered to have voluntarily quit employment.

Given that claimant's primary communication was with Melissa and she did not participate, the claimant's recollection of the pertinent events is credible. The purpose of the statute is to provide notice to the temporary agency employer that the claimant is available for and seeking work at the end of the temporary assignment. Since he contacted the employer within three working days of the notification of the end of the assignment, requested reassignment, and there was no work available, benefits are allowed, provided he is otherwise eligible.

DECISION:

The October 28, 2014, (reference 03) decision is affirmed. The claimant's separation from employment was attributable to the employer. The employer had adequate knowledge about the conclusion of the claimant's assignment and the request for more work but had no further work available at the time. Benefits are allowed, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible.

Dévon M. Lewis Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

dml/pjs