

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

**JAMES DUCHARME**  
Claimant

**APPEAL NO: 110A-UI-14391-BT**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**PER MAR SECURITY & RESEARCH CORP**  
Employer

**OC: 06/05/11**  
**Claimant: Appellant (4/R)**

Iowa Code § 96.5-1 - Voluntary Quit  
871 IAC 24.27 - Voluntary Quit of Part-Time Employment

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

James Ducharme (claimant) appealed an unemployment insurance decision dated July 15, 2011, reference 03, which held that he was not eligible for unemployment insurance benefits because he voluntarily quit his employment with Per Mar Security & Research Corporation (employer) without good cause attributable to the employer. After hearing notices were mailed to the parties' last-known addresses of record, a telephone hearing was held on December 1, 2011. The claimant participated in the hearing with Attorney Michael Tulis. The employer participated through Bob Osterman, general manager; Dora Gallaher, site supervisor at OSI; and Tom Kuiper, employer representative. Based on the evidence, the arguments of the parties, and the law, the administrative law judge enters the following findings of fact, reasoning and conclusions of law, and decision.

**ISSUE:**

The issue is whether the claimant's voluntary separation from his part-time employment qualifies him to receive unemployment insurance benefits.

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and having considered all of the evidence in the record, finds that: The claimant was hired as a full-time security guard on January 15, 2010, but he voluntarily reduced his hours to part-time on February 20, 2011. He quit his employment "of his own accord."

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

The issue is whether the reasons for the claimant's separation from employment qualify him to receive unemployment insurance benefits.

Iowa Code § 96.5-1 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.

871 IAC 24.27 provides:

Voluntary quit of part-time employment and requalification. An individual who voluntarily quits without good cause part-time employment and has not requalified for benefits following the voluntary quit of part-time employment, yet is otherwise monetarily eligible for benefits based on wages paid by the regular or other base period employers, shall not be disqualified for voluntarily quitting the part-time employment. The individual and the part-time employer which was voluntarily quit shall be notified on the Form 65-5323 or 60-0186, Unemployment Insurance Decision, that benefit payments shall not be made which are based on the wages paid by the part-time employer and benefit charges shall not be assessed against the part-time employer's account; however, once the individual has met the requalification requirements following the voluntary quit without good cause of the part-time employer, the wages paid in the part-time employment shall be available for benefit payment purposes. For benefit charging purposes and as determined by the applicable requalification requirements, the wages paid by the part-time employer shall be transferred to the balancing account.

The claimant quit his part-time employment for personal reasons. It is his burden to prove that the voluntary quit was for a good reason that would not disqualify him. Iowa Code § 96.6-2. The claimant's separation from this employer is disqualifying and the employer's account is not subject to charge.

However, an individual who quits part-time employment without good cause, yet is otherwise monetarily eligible based on wages paid by other base-period employers, shall not be disqualified for voluntarily quitting the part-time employment. Benefit payments shall not be based on wages paid by the part-time employer and charges shall not be assessed against the part-time employer's account. Once the individual has met the requalification requirements, the wages paid from the part-time employment can be used for benefit payment purposes. 871 IAC 24.27.

Based on this regulation, this matter is remanded to the Claims Section to determine whether the claimant is monetarily eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits when the wage credits the claimant earned while working for the employer are not used in determining the claimant's monetary eligibility or maximum weekly benefit amount.

The discovery requests and responses were not relevant or helpful to resolving the issue of claimant's admitted voluntary separation from this part-time employer and could have further delayed resolution and the claimant's receipt of benefits. A postponement was requested by the employer as a result of the "30 pages of requests for discovery of documents, interrogatories, witnesses, and testimony summaries," but the administrative law judge denied the request.

**DECISION:**

The unemployment insurance decision dated July 15, 2011, reference 03, is modified in favor of the appellant. The claimant voluntarily quit his part-time employment for disqualifying reasons. Therefore, the employer's account will not be charged. This matter is remanded to the Claims Section to determine whether the claimant is monetarily eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits and to determine what his maximum weekly benefit amount is when the wage credits the claimant earned from the employer are not taken into consideration to determine these two issues.

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Susan D. Ackerman  
Administrative Law Judge

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Decision Dated and Mailed

sda/kjw