IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

MARK D PETERS Claimant

APPEAL 20A-UI-13410-AW-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

ADVANCE SERVICES INC

Employer

OC: 04/05/20 Claimant: Appellant (1)

Iowa Code § 96.5(1)J – VQ – Temporary employment firm Iowa Code § 96.4(3) – Ability to and Availability for Work

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Claimant filed an appeal from the October 21, 2020 (reference 03) unemployment insurance decision that denied benefits. The parties were properly notified of the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on December 31, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. Claimant participated. Employer participated through Melissa Lewien, Risk Manager. Employer's Exhibits 1 and 2 were admitted.

ISSUES:

Whether claimant's separation was a voluntary quit without good cause attributable to employer. Whether claimant made a timely request for another job assignment. Whether claimant is able to and available for work.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant began his employment with Advance Services, a temporary employment firm, on March 16, 2019. Claimant was assigned to work at the Iowa Events Center in building maintenance. Claimant last performed work at the Iowa Events Center on March 12, 2020. Claimant's assignment ended effective March 12, 2020, because the events center closed due to Covid-19.

Employer has a policy that requires employees to request a new assignment within three working days of completing an assignment. (Exhibit 1) Claimant signed and received a copy of the policy. (Exhibit 1) The policy is a document separate from the employee handbook.

After claimant's assignment ended March 12, 2020, claimant had no contact with employer until April 6, 2020.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes claimant voluntarily quit without good cause attributable to employer. Benefits are denied.

Iowa Code section 96.5(1)(j) provides:

An individual shall be disqualified for benefits

1. 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. (1) 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.

(2) 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.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.26(15) 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:

Employee of temporary employment firm.

a. The individual is a temporary employee of a temporary employment firm who notifies the temporary employment firm within three days of completion of an employment assignment and seeks reassignment under the contract of hire. The employee must be advised by the employer of the notification requirement in writing and receive a copy.

b. The individual shall be eligible for benefits under this subrule if the individual had good cause for not contacting the employer within three days and did notify the employer at the first reasonable opportunity.

c. Good cause is a substantial and justifiable reason, excuse or cause such that a reasonable and prudent person, who desired to remain in the ranks of the employed, would find to be adequate justification for not notifying the employer. Good cause would include the employer's going out of business; blinding snow storm; telephone lines down; employer closed for vacation; hospitalization of the claimant; and other substantial reasons.

d. Notification may be accomplished by going to the employer's place of business, telephoning the employer, faxing the employer or any other currently accepted means of communications. Working days means the normal days in which the employer is open for business.

Claimant's assignment at Iowa Events Center ended on March 12, 2020. Claimant did not request another assignment within three working days of his assignment ending. Claimant voluntarily quit his employment without good cause attributable to employer. Benefits are denied.

Because claimant's separation is disqualifying, the issue of whether claimant is able to and available for work is moot.

DECISION:

The October 21, 2020 (reference 03) unemployment insurance decision is affirmed. Claimant voluntarily quit without good cause attributable to employer. Benefits are denied until claimant has worked in and been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times claimant's weekly benefit amount, provided claimant is otherwise eligible. The issue of whether claimant is able to and available for work is moot.

Adrienne C. Williamson Administrative Law Judge Unemployment Insurance Appeals Bureau Iowa Workforce Development 1000 East Grand Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0209 Fax (515)478-3528

January 19, 2021 Decision Dated and Mailed

acw/scn

NOTE TO CLAIMANT:

- This decision determines you are not eligible for REGULAR unemployment insurance benefits under state law. If you disagree with this decision you may file an appeal to the Employment Appeal Board by following the instructions on the first page of this decision.
- If you do not qualify for regular unemployment insurance benefits under state law and are currently unemployed for reasons related to COVID-19, you may qualify for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA). If you have applied and have been approved for PUA benefits, this decision will NOT negatively affect your entitlement to PUA benefits.