IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

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

JAMES H LEIGH Claimant

APPEAL NO. 10A-UI-03568-S2T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 01/31/10 Claimant: Appellant (2)

Section 96.4-3 – Adequate Work Search

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

James Leigh (claimant) appealed a representative's March 2, 2010, decision (reference 01) that concluded he had made fewer than the required two in-person job contacts and that a warning should be issued. After a hearing notice was mailed to the claimant's last-known address of record, a telephone hearing was held on April 10, 2010. The claimant participated personally.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant is actively and earnestly seeking work.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds that: The claimant filed for unemployment insurance benefits on January 31, 2010. For the week ending February 27, 2010, the claimant pushed a button in error resulting in incorrect telephone response data. The claimant made at least two in-person contacts for the week ending February 27, 2010.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow the administrative law judge concludes the claimant is actively and earnestly seeking work.

Iowa Code section 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 did make two in-person contacts for the week ending February 27, 2010. Making two in-person contacts is evidence of earnestly and actively seeking work. The evidence does support a finding that the claimant was earnestly and actively seeking work and, therefore, the warning shall be rescinded.

The claimant has sufficiently demonstrated to the satisfaction of the administrative law judge that appropriate in-person work search contacts were made for the week ending February 27, 2010. Accordingly, the warming shall be rescinded.

DECISION:

The representative's March 2, 2010 decision (reference 01) is reversed. The warning shall be rescinded.

Beth A. Scheetz Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

bas/pjs