

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

JUSTIN M DRESSIC
Claimant

APPEAL NO. 07A-UI-09833-M

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**THE REC ROOM LC
THE REC ROOM PLUS**
Employer

**OC: 09/16/07 R: 02
Claimant: Respondent (2)**

Section 96.5-1 – Voluntary Quit
Section 96.3-7 – Recovery of Overpayment of Benefits

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Employer filed an appeal from a decision of a representative dated October 15, 2007, reference 01, which held claimant eligible for unemployment insurance benefits. After due notice, a hearing was scheduled for and held on November 26, 2007. Employer participated by Gaylon Peterson, Owner; Danne Berglund, Service Manager; Michele Peterson, Co-Owner; and Danne Berglund, Service Manager. Claimant failed to respond to the hearing notice and did not participate. Exhibit One was admitted into evidence.

ISSUE:

The issues in this matter are whether the claimant quit for good cause attributable to the employer and whether claimant is overpaid 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: Claimant last worked for employer on August 31, 2007. Claimant was ordered to re-mow the lawn after doing a poor job the first time. Claimant refused to perform the work as instructed. Claimant repeatedly asked to be discharged. Claimant was not discharged but told to get to work or clock out. Claimant left and never came back. Claimant stayed on the books as an employee until such time as he filed for unemployment. After receiving the unemployment claim, the employer deemed claimant to have quit.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The administrative law judge holds that the evidence has failed to establish that claimant voluntarily quit for good cause attributable to the employer when claimant terminated the employment relationship because claimant quit rather than perform work as instructed. This is a voluntary quit for personal reasons. Furthermore, claimant quit after being reprimanded. This is not good cause attributable to employer for a quit. Benefits withheld.

Iowa Code section 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 24.25(28) provides:

Voluntary quit without good cause. In general, a voluntary quit means discontinuing the employment because the employee no longer desires to remain in the relationship of an employee with the employer from whom the employee has separated. The employer has the burden of proving that the claimant is disqualified for benefits pursuant to Iowa Code section 96.5. However, the claimant has the initial burden to produce evidence that the claimant is not disqualified for benefits in cases involving Iowa Code section 96.5, subsection (1), paragraphs "a" through "i," and subsection 10. The following reasons for a voluntary quit shall be presumed to be without good cause attributable to the employer:

(28) The claimant left after being reprimanded.

The next issue concerns an overpayment of unemployment insurance benefits.

Iowa Code section 96.3-7 provides:

7. Recovery of overpayment of benefits. If an individual receives benefits for which the individual is subsequently determined to be ineligible, even though the individual acts in good faith and is not otherwise at fault, the benefits shall be recovered. The department in its discretion may recover the overpayment of benefits either by having a sum equal to the overpayment deducted from any future benefits payable to the individual or by having the individual pay to the department a sum equal to the overpayment.

If the department determines that an overpayment has been made, the charge for the overpayment against the employer's account shall be removed and the account shall be credited with an amount equal to the overpayment from the unemployment compensation trust fund and this credit shall include both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

The administrative law judge holds that claimant is overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$1,368.00 pursuant to Iowa Code section 96.3-7, because a decision has determined claimant is ineligible to receive benefits due to a voluntary quit without good cause attributable to employer.

Since claimant has been disqualified for the receipt of unemployment insurance benefits, the claim shall be locked until claimant has re-qualified or is otherwise eligible.

DECISION:

The decision of the representative dated October 15, 2007, reference 01, is reversed. Unemployment insurance benefits are withheld 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. Claimant is overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$1,368.00.

Marlon Mormann
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

mdm/kjw