

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

JAY L EVANS
Claimant

HOBBY LOBBY STORES INC
Employer

APPEAL 15A-UI-01385-H2T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**OC: 01/04/15
Claimant: Respondent (2)**

Iowa Code § 96.5(1) – Voluntary Leaving

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The employer filed an appeal from the January 26, 2015 (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision that allowed benefits. The parties were properly notified about the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on February 26, 2015. Claimant did not participate. Employer participated through Shawn Ashby, Store Manager.

ISSUE:

Did the claimant voluntarily quit his employment without good cause attributable to the employer?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant was employed part time as an off duty sheriff beginning on November 1, 2008 through November 29, 2014 when he retired. The store routinely hired off-duty sheriff's to work in the store as added security. The sheriff would set the schedule and determine which deputy would go to the store. The claimant retired as a deputy sheriff on November 29, 2014 thus he was no longer able to work in the store.

No unemployment insurance benefits have been paid to the claimant since his retirement, thus the issue of overpayment is moot.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily left the employment without good cause attributable to the employer.

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.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.25(24) 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 § 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 § 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:

(24) The claimant left employment to accept retirement when such claimant could have continued working.

Claimant has the burden of proving that the voluntary leaving was for good cause attributable to the employer. Iowa Code § 96.6(2). A voluntary leaving of employment requires an intention to terminate the employment relationship accompanied by an overt act of carrying out that intention. *Local Lodge #1426 v. Wilson Trailer*, 289 N.W.2d 608, 612 (Iowa 1980). The claimant retired from his deputy sheriff job and thus from his job as security assigned at the store. While claimant's decision to quit may have been based upon good personal reasons it was not a good cause reason attributable to the employer for leaving the employment. Benefits must be denied.

DECISION:

The January 26, 2015 (reference 01) decision is reversed. The claimant voluntarily left his employment without good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until such time as he has worked in and been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times his weekly benefit amount, provided he is otherwise eligible. Inasmuch as no benefits were claimed or paid, no overpayment applies.

Teresa K. Hillary
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

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