IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

JUSTIN D MILLER

Claimant

APPEAL 15A-UI-01376-H2T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

ADVANCE SERVICES INC

Employer

OC: 12/28/14

Claimant: Appellant (2)

Iowa Code § 96.5(1)j – Voluntary Leaving (Temporary Employment)

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed an appeal from the January 27, 2015 (reference 06) unemployment insurance decision that denied benefits. The parties were properly notified about the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on February 26, 2015. Claimant participated. Employer participated through Michael Payne, Risk Manager. Employer's Exhibits One and Two were entered and received into the record.

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 last assigned to work at Cardinal Glass IG full time as a production laborer beginning on June 3, 2014 through December 16, 2014 when he completed the assignment. The claimant was told via telephone on December 17 that his assignment had ended. At that time he specifically asked for additional work but none was available for him. Someone from the employer then contacted him again on December 26 to offer him a new assignment. The employer knew the claimant was seeking additional work.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily left employment with good cause attributable to the employer and adequately notified employer of his availability for additional assignments.

Iowa Code § 96.5-1-j 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, but the individual shall not be disqualified if the department finds that:
- j. 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.

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.

For the purposes of this paragraph:

- (1) "Temporary employee" means an individual who is employed by a temporary employment firm to provide services to clients to supplement their work force during absences, seasonal workloads, temporary skill or labor market shortages, and for special assignments and projects.
- (2) "Temporary employment firm" means a person engaged in the business of employing temporary employees.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.26(19) 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:

(19) The claimant was employed on a temporary basis for assignment to spot jobs or casual labor work and fulfilled the contract of hire when each of the jobs was completed. An election not to report for a new assignment to work shall not be construed as a voluntary leaving of employment. The issue of a refusal of an offer of suitable work shall be adjudicated when an offer of work is made by the former employer. The provisions of lowa Code section 96.5(3) and rule 24.24(96) are controlling in the determination of suitability of work. However, this subrule shall not apply to substitute school employees who are subject to the provisions of lowa Code section 96.4(5) which denies benefits that are based on service in an educational institution when the individual declines or refuses to accept a new contract or reasonable assurance of continued employment status. Under this circumstance, the substitute school employee shall be considered to have voluntarily quit employment.

The purpose of the statute is to provide notice to the temporary agency employer that the claimant is available for work at the conclusion of the temporary assignment. In this case, the employer had notice of the claimant's availability because they notified him of the end of the assignment and he did ask for additional work at that time. Additionally, the employer did contact him on December 26 to offer him additional employment, indicating that they knew he was seeking additional assignments. Benefits are allowed.

DECISION:

The January 27, 2015 (reference 06) decision is reversed. The claimant's separation from employment was attributable to the employer. The claimant had adequate contact with the employer about his availability as required by statute. Benefits are allowed, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible.

Teresa K. Hillary Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

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