IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

JESSICA K TILLEMA Claimant APPEAL 21A-UI-07140-S1-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 12/27/20

Claimant: Appellant (2)

Section 96.4-3 – Adequate Work Search 871 IAC 24.22(3) – Earnestly and Actively Seeking Work

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Jessica Tillema (claimant) appealed a representative's March 1, 2021, decision (reference 01) that concluded she had made fewer than the required two job contacts and 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 24, 2021. 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 December 27, 2020. For the week ending February 20, 2021, the claimant had a computer glitch and had to file her weekly claim twice. The claimant's testimony that appropriate work searches were made is credible. She pushed a button in error resulting in incorrect computer response data.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow the administrative law judge concludes the claimant was actively and earnestly seeking work for the week ending February 20, 2021.

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 work searches for the week ending February 20, 2021. Making two contacts is evidence of earnestly and actively seeking work. The claimant has sufficiently demonstrated to the satisfaction of the administrative law judge that appropriate work search were made for the week ending February 20, 2021. Accordingly, the warming shall be rescinded.

DECISION:

The representative's March 1, 2021, decision (reference 01) is reversed. The warning shall be rescinded.

Beth A. Scheetz

Administrative Law Judge

But A. Felety

April 30, 2021

Decision Dated and Mailed

bas/scn