# IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

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

**JODI ABBOTT** 

Claimant

**APPEAL NO: 07A-UI-04541-ET** 

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE** 

**DECISION** 

**MANPOWER INC** 

Employer

OC: 04-01-07 R: 02 Claimant: Respondent (1)

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

#### STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The employer filed a timely appeal from the April 18, 2007, reference 01, decision that allowed benefits to the claimant. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held by telephone conference call before Administrative Law Judge Julie Elder on May 23, 2007. The claimant participated in the hearing. Vicki Jenkins, Staffing Specialist and Jason Sandborn, Branch Manager, participated in the hearing on behalf of the employer.

### ISSUE:

The issue is whether the employer discharged the claimant for work-connected misconduct.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT:

The claimant was employed as a full-time assembler for Manpower last assigned at Cummins Filtration from September 25, 2006 to January 22, 2007. She was absent January 9, 12, 19 and 20, 2007, either because of the weather or illness and the client ended the assignment. The claimant had signed up to work second shift but was working on the third shift at the time of the separation. At the time the employer notified the claimant that the assignment ended, they also advised the claimant that they had no additional assignments available on first or second shift.

#### **REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily left her employment with good cause attributable to the employer.

Iowa Code section 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.

## 871 IAC 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.

While the claimant's testimony regarding the reasons for her absences was not particularly credible, she did properly report her absences and there is no evidence that they were not due to illness or extreme weather conditions. Additionally, she did sign up to work second shift and was assigned a third shift position.

The purpose of the reporting 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 her of the end of the assignment. Since there is no evidence the employer provided the claimant with a written copy of the reporting policy, the claimant's recollection that she did not receive notice of the reporting policy is credible. Without that, it was not unreasonable for the claimant to wait for the employer to call her with work on the first or second shift. Benefits are allowed.

#### **DECISION:**

The April 18, 2007, reference 01, decision is affirmed. The claimant's separation from employment was attributable to the employer. The claimant had adequate contact with the employer about her availability as required by statute. Benefits are allowed, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible.

Julie Elder	
Administrative Law Judge	
Decision Dated and Mailed	
je/pjs	