IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

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

FLACO J PADILA

Claimant

APPEAL NO. 12A-UI-09751-JTT

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

MANPOWER INTERNATIONAL INC

Employer

OC: 01/01/12

Claimant: Appellant (2)

Iowa Code Section 96.5(1)(j) – Separation From Temporary Employment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Claimant filed a timely appeal from the August 8, 2012, reference 01, decision that denied benefits in connection with a February 17, 2012 separation. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held on September 5, 2012. Claimant participated. John Rich, Staffing Specialist represented the employer.

ISSUE:

Whether the claimant's separation from the temporary employment agency was for good cause attributable to the employer.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The employer is a temporary employment agency. The claimant started a full-time temporary employment work assignment in September 2011 and completed the work assignment on February 17, 2012. On February 14, claimant's supervisor let him know the assignment would be ending on February 17. On that same day, the claimant contacted Manpower International to let the employer know the assignment was coming to an end, to update his information, and to request additional work. On February 16 and February 17, the claimant again contacted the temporary employment agency for additional work. The temporary employment agency had no further work for the claimant at that time.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

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.

The evidence in the record indicates that the claimant was in contact with the temporary employment agency on February 14, 2012 for the purpose of alerting the temporary employment agency to alert the employer that his work assignment would end on February 17, 2012 and to request additional work. The claimant was again in contact with the temporary employment agency on February 16 to seek additional work. On February 17 the assignment

ended and the claimant again contacted the temporary employment agency looking for work. The temporary employment agency had no work for the claimant at that time. Regardless of whether the employer had an end-of-assignment notification policy that complied with lowa Code section 96.5(j)(1), the claimant satisfied his obligation under the statute by contacting the employer within three working days of the end of assignment to indicate his availability for additional work. The claimant's September 17, 2012 separation from Manpower International was for good cause attributable to the employer. The claimant is eligible for benefits, provided he is otherwise eligible. The employer's account may be charged.

DECISION:

The Agency representative's August 8, 2012, reference 01, decision is reversed. The claimant's February 17, 2012 separation from the temporary employment agency was for good cause attributable to the temporary employment agency. The claimant is eligible for benefits, provided he is otherwise eligible. The employer's account may be charged.

James E. Timberland
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

jet/pjs