

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

SUSAN K ANDERSON
Claimant

APPEAL NO: 07A-UI-08650-LT

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

EMPLOYMENT CONNECTIONS INC
Employer

OC: 02/11/07 R: 01
Claimant: Appellant (1)

Iowa Code § 96.5(3)a – Work Refusal

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed a timely appeal from the August 31, 2007, reference 02, decision that denied benefits. After due notice was issued, a telephone conference hearing was held on September 25, 2007. Claimant participated. Employer participated through Robert Seggerman.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether claimant refused a suitable offer of work.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having heard the testimony and having reviewed the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant was employed until August 2, 2007 when she completed her last temporary assignment remodeling paid \$9.50 per hour on the second shift at Wal-Mart. On August 6 Seggerman notified claimant of openings at Eaton's paying \$15.00 per hour on second shift, full time for an extended temporary position. She declined since her husband works there and she wants to work in the printing industry. Since August 27 she returned to work for employer assigned to Polaris for \$10 per hour on first shift. Claimant's average weekly wage is \$476.28. The offer was made in the second week of unemployment.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes claimant did refuse a suitable offer of work.

Iowa Code § 96.5-3-a provides:

An individual shall be disqualified for benefits:

3. Failure to accept work. If the department finds that an individual has failed, without good cause, either to apply for available, suitable work when directed by the department or to accept suitable work when offered that individual. The department shall, if possible, furnish the individual with the names of employers which are seeking employees. The

individual shall apply to and obtain the signatures of the employers designated by the department on forms provided by the department. However, the employers may refuse to sign the forms. The individual's failure to obtain the signatures of designated employers, which have not refused to sign the forms, shall disqualify the individual for benefits until requalified. To requalify for benefits after disqualification under this subsection, the individual shall work in and be paid wages for insured work equal to ten times the individual's weekly benefit amount, provided the individual is otherwise eligible.

a. In determining whether or not any work is suitable for an individual, the department shall consider the degree of risk involved to the individual's health, safety, and morals, the individual's physical fitness, prior training, length of unemployment, and prospects for securing local work in the individual's customary occupation, the distance of the available work from the individual's residence, and any other factor which the department finds bears a reasonable relation to the purposes of this paragraph. Work is suitable if the work meets all the other criteria of this paragraph and if the gross weekly wages for the work equal or exceed the following percentages of the individual's average weekly wage for insured work paid to the individual during that quarter of the individual's base period in which the individual's wages were highest:

- (1) One hundred percent, if the work is offered during the first five weeks of unemployment.
- (2) Seventy-five percent, if the work is offered during the sixth through the twelfth week of unemployment.
- (3) Seventy percent, if the work is offered during the thirteenth through the eighteenth week of unemployment.
- (4) Sixty-five percent, if the work is offered after the eighteenth week of unemployment.

However, the provisions of this paragraph shall not require an individual to accept employment below the federal minimum wage.

The offer was suitable as it offered \$600.00 per week, \$123.72 higher than her average weekly wage, and that claimant's husband works at Eaton's was not a good-cause reason for the refusal. Benefits are denied.

DECISION:

The August 31, 2007, reference 02, decision is affirmed. Claimant did refuse a suitable offer of work. Benefits are withheld until such time as the claimant works in and has been paid wages equal to ten times her weekly benefit amount, provided she is otherwise eligible.

Dévon M. Lewis
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

dml/pjs