## IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

	68-0157 (9-06) - 3091078 - El
ADRIAN D HENDERSON	APPEAL NO: 13A-UI-02284-DT
Claimant	ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION
WELLS FARGO BANK NA Employer	
	OC: 01/27/13

Claimant: Appellant (1)

Section 96.5-1 – Voluntary Leaving

# STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Adrian D. Henderson (claimant) appealed a representative's February 21, 2013 decision (reference 01) that concluded he was not qualified to receive unemployment insurance benefits after a separation from employment with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. (employer). After hearing notices were mailed to the parties' last-known addresses of record, a telephone hearing was held on March 25, 2013. The claimant participated in the hearing. F.K. Landolphi of Barnett Associates appeared on the employer's behalf and presented testimony from one witness, Blake Fitch. Based on the evidence, the arguments of the parties, and the law, the administrative law judge enters the following findings of fact, reasoning and conclusions of law, and decision.

### ISSUE:

Did the claimant voluntarily quit for a good cause attributable to the employer?

### OUTCOME:

Affirmed. Benefits denied.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT:

The claimant started working for the employer on April 23, 2012. He worked full time as a home loan processor. His last day of work was January 31, 2013. He voluntarily quit effective that date through sending a resignation notice by email on January 24, 2013.

The claimant quit because he had been placed on a performance improvement plan and had been given a final warning for performance on January 15, 2013. The claimant was concerned that he would be discharged for not meeting the employer's standards, and did not wish to be discharged. The employer had not made any decision to discharge the claimant, but only that he was susceptible to termination if his performance continued to be below 80 percent of the employer's standard. The employer would not have made any decision as to possible discharge at least until the January figures were tallied sometime after January 31.

# **REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

If the claimant voluntarily quit his employment, he is not eligible for unemployment insurance benefits unless it was for good cause attributable to the employer. Iowa Code § 96.5-1. Rule 871 IAC 24.25 provides that, in general, a voluntary quit means discontinuing the employment because the employee no longer desires to remain in the relationship of an employee with the employer from whom the employee has separated. A voluntary leaving of employment requires an intention to terminate the employment relationship and an action to carry out that intent. *Bartelt v. Employment Appeal Board*, 494 N.W.2d 684 (Iowa 1993); *Wills v. Employment Appeal Board*, 447 N.W.2d 137, 138 (Iowa 1989). The claimant did express or exhibit the intent to cease working for the employer and did act to carry it out. The claimant would be disqualified for unemployment insurance benefits unless he voluntarily quit for good cause.

The claimant has the burden of proving that the voluntary quit was for a good cause that would not disqualify his. Iowa Code § 96.6-2. Leaving because of unlawful, intolerable, or detrimental working conditions would be good cause. 871 IAC 24.26(3), (4). Leaving because of a dissatisfaction with the work environment is not good cause. 871 IAC 24.25(21). Quitting because a reprimand has been given is not good cause. 871 IAC 24.25(28). Quitting because of a belief that the job performance is below the employer's expectations and that discharge was eminent is not good cause for quitting where the employer has not made or announced a decision that the claimant would in fact be discharged if he does not quit. 871 IAC 24.25(33). The claimant has not provided sufficient evidence to conclude that a reasonable person would find the employer's work environment detrimental or intolerable. *O'Brien v. Employment Appeal Board*, 494 N.W.2d 660 (Iowa 1993); *Uniweld Products v. Industrial Relations Commission*, 277 So.2d 827 (FL App. 1973). The claimant has not satisfied his burden. Benefits are denied.

### **DECISION:**

The representative's February 21, 2013 decision (reference 01) is affirmed. The claimant voluntarily left his employment without good cause attributable to the employer. As of January 31, 2013, benefits are withheld until such time as the claimant has worked in and been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times his weekly benefit amount, provided he is otherwise eligible.

Lynette A. F. Donner Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

ld/css