IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

VICTORIA MUMMERT

Claimant

APPEAL NO. 19A-UI-04473-B2T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

ADVANCE SERVICES INC

Employer

OC: 04/21/19

Claimant: Appellant (1)

Iowa Code § 96.5(1)j – Voluntary Quitting – Temporary Employment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Claimant filed an appeal from a decision of a representative dated May 22, 2019, reference 01, which held claimant ineligible for unemployment insurance benefits. After due notice, a hearing was scheduled for and held on June 26, 2019. Claimant participated personally. Employer participated by Melissa Lewien. Employer's Exhibit 1 was admitted into evidence.

ISSUE:

Did the claimant quit by not reporting for an additional work assignment within three business days of the end of the last assignment?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having heard the testimony and having reviewed the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant was hired by employer on September 24, 2018 and was placed with Ag Reliant on September 25, 2019. Claimant continued to work at that placement until April 26, 2019. On April 24, 2019 claimant was informed that her placement would end on April 26, 2019. Claimant did not call or contact employer at the end of her placement to request a future assignment.

At the time of hire, claimant did sign an End of Assignment which alerts claimant to be in touch with employer within three days of the ending of an assignment. Said document also alerts claimant that failure to do so could endanger receipt of unemployment benefits.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily left the employment without good cause attributable to the employer.

Iowa Code section 96.5(1) provides:

An individual shall be disqualified for benefits, regardless of the source of the individual's wage credits:

- 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. (1) 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.
- (2) 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.
- (3) For the purposes of this paragraph:
- (a) "Temporary employee" means an individual who is employed by a temporary employment firm to provide services to clients to supplement their workforce during absences, seasonal workloads, temporary skill or labor market shortages, and for special assignments and projects.
- (b) "Temporary employment firm" means a person engaged in the business of employing temporary employees.

The purpose of the statute is to provide notice to the temporary agency employer that the claimant is available for work at the conclusion of each temporary assignment so they may be reassigned and continue working. The plain language of the statute allows benefits for a claimant "who notifies the temporary employment firm of completion of an employment assignment and who seeks reassignment." (Emphasis supplied.)

In this case, the claimant did not notify the employer of her availability at the end of her assignment or request another assignment and, therefore, is considered to have quit the employment. Benefits are denied.

DECISION:

The May 22, 2019, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision is affirmed. The claimant's separation was not attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until such time as she works in and has been paid for wages equal to ten times her weekly benefit amount, provided she is otherwise eligible.

Blair A. Bennett Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

bab/scn