IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

ARRIE PARKINSON Claimant

APPEAL 20A-UI-10929-CL-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

EXPRESS SERVICES INC

Employer

OC: 07/14/19 Claimant: Respondent (1R)

Iowa Code § 96.5(1)j – Voluntary Quitting – Temporary Employment Iowa Code § 96.3(7) – Recovery of Benefit Overpayment Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.10 – Employer/Representative Participation Fact-finding Interview PL 116-136, Sec. 2104(b) – Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

On September 4, 2020, the employer filed an appeal from the August 27, 2020, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision that allowed benefits. The parties were properly notified about the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on October 27, 2020. Claimant did not register for the hearing and did not participate. Employer participated through business development manager Dina Hillman and employment specialist Elizabeth Wallace.

ISSUES:

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

Has the claimant been overpaid unemployment insurance benefits, and if so, can the repayment of those benefits to the agency be waived?

Can charges to the employer's account be waived?

Is the claimant eligible for Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Employer is a temporary staffing firm. Claimant was last assigned to work as a full-time maintenance technician. The assignment started on April 27, 2020, and ended on June 22, 2020. The assignment was ended at the client's request. Claimant was eligible for reassignment. Employer does not have a policy that requires employees to request reassignment after an assignment ends. Claimant did not request reassignment.

On July 9, 2020, employer called claimant and left a voice message in which it offered him a new assignment. Claimant did not respond to the voice message.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant was separated from employment with good cause attributable to 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.

Iowa Admin. Code 871—24.26(15) provides:

The following are reasons for a claimant leaving employment with good cause attributable to the employer:

Employee of temporary employment firm.

a. The individual is a temporary employee of a temporary employment firm who notifies the temporary employment firm within three days of completion of an employment assignment and seeks reassignment under the contract of hire. The employee must be advised by the employer of the notification requirement in writing and receive a copy.

- b. The individual shall be eligible for benefits under this subrule if the individual had good cause for not contacting the employer within three days and did notify the employer at the first reasonable opportunity.
- c. Good cause is a substantial and justifiable reason, excuse or cause such that a reasonable and prudent person, who desired to remain in the ranks of the employed, would find to be adequate justification for not notifying the employer. Good cause would include the employer's going out of business; blinding snow storm; telephone lines down; employer closed for vacation; hospitalization of the claimant; and other substantial reasons.
- d. Notification may be accomplished by going to the employer's place of business, telephoning the employer, faxing the employer, or any other currently accepted means of communications. Working days means the normal days in which the employer is open for business.

In this case, claimant was not advised in writing that he was required to notify employer within three working days of the assignment ending that he was seeking reassignment. Therefore, claimant's separation is with good cause attributable to employer.

Because claimant is allowed benefits, he has not been overpaid benefits and is entitled to Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation. Those issues will not be considered further.

The issue of whether employer made and claimant declined a suitable offer of work on July 9, 2020, will be remanded to the Benefits Bureau of Iowa Workforce Development for an initial decision.

DECISION:

The August 27, 2020, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision is affirmed. The claimant was separated from employment with good cause attributable to employer. Benefits are allowed, provided claimant is otherwise eligible.

REMAND:

The issue of whether employer made an offer of suitable work and claimant declined on July 9, 2020, as delineated in the findings of fact above is remanded to the Benefits Bureau of Iowa Workforce Development for an initial investigation and decision.

CLARL

Christine A. Louis Administrative Law Judge Unemployment Insurance Appeals Bureau 1000 East Grand Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0209 Fax (515)478-3528

October 28, 2020 Decision Dated and Mailed

cal/scn