IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

MARK P CARTER Claimant

APPEAL 16A-UI-07855-JP-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

AEROTEK INC Employer

> OC: 06/05/16 Claimant: Appellant (2)

Iowa Code § 96.5(2)a – Discharge for Misconduct Iowa Code § 96.5(1) – Voluntary Quitting

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed an appeal from the July 8, 2016, (reference 02) unemployment insurance decision that denied benefits. The parties were properly notified about the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on August 4, 2016. Claimant participated. Employer did not participate. The employer sent a written notice dated August 1, 2016 that it would not be participating in the hearing.

ISSUE:

Did claimant voluntarily leave the employment with good cause attributable to the employer or did employer discharge the claimant for reasons related to job misconduct sufficient to warrant a denial of benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant was employed as a temporary employee on an eighteen month contract working full-time hours as a customer service representative last assigned at Wells Fargo (Jordan Creek campus) from February 2016, and was separated from the assignment, but not the employment, on June 2, 2016. The employer notified claimant that the assignment had ended on June 2, 2016. Claimant asked the employer if there were any assignments available. The recruiter told claimant that the employer may have an additional assignment, but there was no guarantee. The recruiter told claimant that the employer would call if the recruiter could get claimant into the assignment. The employer did not call claimant back about the assignment. Claimant was not instructed to call the employer every week to report his availability; the employer told claimant it would call him if it found him an assignment. Claimant was never told that he was discharged from the employer. Claimant is not aware of the employer having a policy that requires him to request an additional assignment within three business days of his assignment ending. Claimant requested an additional assignment from the employer the day he was notified his assignment had ended.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant's separation was with good cause attributable to the employer.

Iowa Code § 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. (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.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.26(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 Iowa 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.

Since employer provided no evidence that it presented claimant with a written copy of a reporting policy, claimant's recollection that he did not have notice of the reporting policy is credible. Although claimant did not recall the employer having a reporting policy, he did request an additional assignment from the employer the same day he was told his assignment had ended. Furthermore, claimant's assertion that the employer told him it would look for other work for claimant infers there was no further work available at the time. Accordingly, since claimant contacted the employer within three working days of the notification of the end of the assignment, requested reassignment, and there was no work available, no disqualification is imposed. Benefits are allowed.

DECISION:

The July 8, 2016, (reference 02) unemployment insurance decision is reversed. Claimant's separation from employment was attributable to the employer. Benefits are allowed, provided claimant is otherwise eligible. Any benefits claimed and withheld on this basis shall be paid.

Jeremy Peterson Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

jp/pjs