IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

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

ANGELA M ROSS Claimant

APPEAL NO. 11A-UI-02303-S2T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

EXPRESS SERVICES INC

Employer

OC: 02/14/10 Claimant: Appellant (1)

Section 96.5-1-j – Separation from Temporary Employer Section 96.4-3 – Able and Available

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Angela Ross (claimant) appealed a representative's February 17, 2011 decision (reference 06) that concluded she was not eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits because she voluntarily quit work with Express Services (employer). After hearing notices were mailed to the parties' last-known addresses of record, a telephone hearing was scheduled for March 24, 2011. The claimant participated personally. The employer participated by Brandy Whittenbaugh, Staffing Consultant.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant was separated from employment for any disqualifying reason.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds that: The employer is a temporary employment service. The claimant performed services from August 2 through December 29, 2010. She signed a document on July 28, 2010, indicating that she was to contact the employer within three days following the completion of an assignment to request placement in a new assignment. The claimant was given a copy of the document which was separate from the contract for hire. The claimant completed her last assignment on December 29, 2010. She contacted the employer stating she was going to be a full-time student starting on January 5, 2011. She would notify the employer if she could accept any further assignments. The claimant became a full-time student on January 5, 2011, and did not contact the employer. On January 25, 2011, the employer called the claimant and offered a position but the claimant did not take the assignment.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow the administrative law judge concludes the claimant was separated from the employer for a disqualifying reason.

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.

The claimant did not request reassignment and has, therefore, failed to satisfy the requirements of Iowa Code section 96.5-1-j. Benefits are denied.

871 IAC 24.23(5) provides:

(5) Full-time students devoting the major portion of their time and efforts to their studies are deemed to have no reasonable expectancy of securing employment except if the students are available to the same degree and to the same extent as they accrued wage credits they will meet the eligibility requirements of the law.

When an employee is devoting time and effort to being a full-time student, she is considered to be unavailable for work. The claimant was devoting her time and efforts to being a full-time student. She is considered to be unavailable for work after January 5, 2011. The claimant is disqualified from receiving unemployment insurance benefits due to her unavailability for work.

DECISION:

The representative's February 17, 2011 decision (reference 06) is affirmed. The claimant was separated from the employer for no good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until the claimant has worked in and has been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times the claimant's weekly benefit amount, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible. The claimant is also disqualified from receiving unemployment insurance benefits due to her unavailability for work.

Beth A. Scheetz Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

bas/css