IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

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

LORA A BROWN

Claimant

APPEAL NO: 18A-UI-01230-JE-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

DECISION

EXPRESS SERVICES INC

Employer

OC: 08/20/17

Claimant: Respondent (2)

Section 96.5(1) – Voluntary Leaving 871 IAC 24.26(19 & 22) – Voluntary Leaving Section 96.5-1-i – Reassignment from Employer

STATEMENT OF CASE:

The employer filed a timely appeal from the January 19, 2018, reference 04, decision that allowed benefits to the claimant. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held by telephone conference call before Administrative Law Judge Julie Elder on February 21, 2018. The claimant participated in the hearing. Nicole Shanks, Staffing Consultant, participated in the hearing on behalf of the employer.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant voluntarily left her employment and whether she sought reassignment from the employer.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant was employed as a full-time accounts payable clerk for Express Services Inc., last assigned to Winnebago from October 23, 2017 to December 15, 2017. The claimant's assignment ended due to the client's dissatisfaction with the claimant's speed at performing her job. When the claimant was informed the assignment was over, the on-site manager for the employer told her to contact the office and check the website for another assignment. The claimant looked at the website but did not contact the employer within three working days following the completion of her assignment as required by the employer's policy.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant's separation was disqualifying.

Iowa Code § 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.

Iowa Code section 96.5(1)j 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 three day assignment policy 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. In this case, the claimant gave the employer no notice of her availability and, therefore, is considered to have quit the employment, even though the claimant may have sought further work at a later date. In this case, because the claimant did not seek further work within three business days of the completion of the assignment, she is considered to have voluntarily quit her job. Therefore, benefits must be denied.

DECISION:

The January 19, 2018, reference 04, decision is reversed. The claimant's separation was not attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until such time as the claimant works in and has been paid for wages equal to ten times her weekly benefit amount, provided she is otherwise eligible.

Julie Elder
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

je/scn