

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Unemployment Insurance Appeals Section
1000 East Grand—Des Moines, Iowa 50319
DECISION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
68-0157 (7-97) – 3091078 - EI**

**MICHAEL J SHIPLEY
2917 AURORA AVE
DES MOINES IA 50310-5956**

**FOODS INC
4343 MERLE HAY RD
DES MOINES IA 50310**

**Appeal Number: 06A-UI-06650-LT
OC: 05-28-06 R: 02
Claimant: Appellant (1)**

This Decision Shall Become Final, unless within fifteen (15) days from the date below, you or any interested party appeal to the Employment Appeal Board by submitting either a signed letter or a signed written Notice of Appeal, directly to the ***Employment Appeal Board, 4th Floor—Lucas Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.***

The appeal period will be extended to the next business day if the last day to appeal falls on a weekend or a legal holiday.

STATE CLEARLY

1. The name, address and social security number of the claimant.
2. A reference to the decision from which the appeal is taken.
3. That an appeal from such decision is being made and such appeal is signed.
4. The grounds upon which such appeal is based.

YOU MAY REPRESENT yourself in this appeal or you may obtain a lawyer or other interested party to do so provided there is no expense to Workforce Development. If you wish to be represented by a lawyer, you may obtain the services of either a private attorney or one whose services are paid for with public funds. It is important that you file your claim as directed, while this appeal is pending, to protect your continuing right to benefits.

(Administrative Law Judge)

(Decision Dated & Mailed)

Iowa Code § 96.5(1) – Voluntary Leaving

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Claimant filed a timely appeal from the June 20, 2006, reference 01, decision that denied benefits. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held on July 20, 2006. Claimant participated with Bonnie Stokes. Employer responded to the hearing notice instructions but was not available when the hearing was called and did not participate. The issue is whether claimant quit the employment without good cause attributable to the employer.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant was employed as a full-time cook through May 27, 2006 when he quit because he was incarcerated from May 25 through June 1, 2006. His mother called the store manager with notice of his absence. He was scheduled to work Saturday, Sunday and Monday, May 27, 28,

and 29, 2006. Claimant acknowledged being incarcerated during scheduled workdays. Due to the incarceration, employer may reasonably consider the absences, reported or unreported, a voluntary leaving of employment without good cause attributable to the employer.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

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

Iowa Code § 96.5-1 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.

871 IAC 24.25(16) provides:

Voluntary quit without good cause. In general, a voluntary quit means discontinuing the employment because the employee no longer desires to remain in the relationship of an employee with the employer from whom the employee has separated. The employer has the burden of proving that the claimant is disqualified for benefits pursuant to Iowa Code § 96.5. However, the claimant has the initial burden to produce evidence that the claimant is not disqualified for benefits in cases involving Iowa Code § 96.5, subsection (1), paragraphs "a" through "i," and subsection 10. The following reasons for a voluntary quit shall be presumed to be without good cause attributable to the employer:

(16) The claimant is deemed to have left if such claimant becomes incarcerated.

The claimant has the burden of proving that the voluntary leaving was for good cause attributable to the employer. Iowa Code § 96.6(2) (amended 1998).

The claimant's incarceration on multiple scheduled workdays was not a good-cause reason attributable to the employer for leaving. Employer's attribution of the absences either as a discharge or as a voluntary leaving of employment was reasonable as it is not expected to hold employment for incarcerated employees. Benefits are denied.

DECISION:

The June 20, 2006, reference 01, decision is affirmed. The claimant voluntarily left his employment without good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until such time as he has worked in and been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times his weekly benefit amount, provided he is otherwise eligible.

dml/pjs