

**Board of Review  
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Chairman  
Charlene A. Stawicki, Esq.  
Member  
Michael J. Albano  
Member**

**Issue ID: 0051 3918 02**

Introduction and Procedural History of this Appeal

The claimant appeals a decision by a review examiner of the Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) to deny the claimant benefits following her separation from employment on January 9, 2020. We review, pursuant to our authority under G.L. c. 151A, § 41, and affirm.

On April 1, 2021, the agency initially determined that the claimant was not entitled to unemployment benefits. The claimant appealed and both parties attended the hearing. In a decision rendered on July 2, 2021, the review examiner affirmed the agency determination, concluding that the claimant voluntarily left employment without good cause attributable to the employer and, thus, was disqualified under G.L. c. 151A, § 25(e)(1).

Ruling of the Board

After considering the recorded testimony and evidence from the hearing, the review examiner's decision, and the claimant's appeal, we conclude that the review examiner's decision is based on substantial evidence and is free from any error of law affecting substantive rights.

The review examiner's decision is affirmed. The claimant is denied benefits for the week beginning January 5, 2020, and for subsequent weeks, until such time as she has had at least eight weeks of work and has earned an amount equivalent to or in excess of eight times her weekly benefit amount.

Because the record indicates the claimant was unable to return to work due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, she may be eligible for PUA benefits.



Paul T. Fitzgerald, Esq.  
Chairman

**BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**DATE OF DECISION - August 5, 2021**



Michael J. Albano  
Member

Member Charlene A. Stawicki, Esq. did not participate in this decision.

If this decision disqualifies the claimant from receiving regular unemployment benefits, the claimant may be eligible to apply for Pandemic Unemployment Benefits (PUA). The claimant may apply at: <https://ui-cares-act.mass.gov/PUA/>. The claimant may also call customer assistance at 877-626-6800 (select the number for your preferred language, then press # 2 for PUA).

**ANY FURTHER APPEAL WOULD BE TO A MASSACHUSETTS  
STATE DISTRICT COURT  
(See Section 42, Chapter 151A, General Laws, Enclosed)**

The last day to appeal this decision to a Massachusetts District Court is thirty days from the mail date on the first page of this decision. If that thirtieth day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the last day to appeal this decision is the business day next following the thirtieth day.

To locate the nearest Massachusetts District Court, see:  
[www.mass.gov/courts/court-info/courthouses](http://www.mass.gov/courts/court-info/courthouses)

Please be advised that fees for services rendered by an attorney or agent to a claimant in connection with an appeal to the Board of Review are not payable unless submitted to the Board of Review for approval, under G.L. c. 151A, § 37.

LSW/rh