

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

Issue ID: 0053 3347 81

Introduction and Procedural History of this Appeal

The employer appeals a decision by a review examiner of the Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) to award the claimant benefits following his separation from employment on March 4, 2020. We review, pursuant to our authority under G.L. c. 151A, § 41, and affirm.

On September 29, 2020, 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 August 26, 2021, the review examiner reversed the agency determination, concluding that the claimant involuntarily left employment for urgent, compelling, and necessitous reasons and, thus, was not disqualified under G.L. c. 151A, § 25(e)(1). The Board accepted the employer's application for review.

Ruling of the Board

After considering the recorded testimony and evidence from the hearing, the review examiner's decision, and the employer'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 employer will not be charged for any benefits paid under this claim to the claimant, in accordance with G.L. c. 151A, § 14(d)(3).

The review examiner's decision is affirmed. The claimant is entitled to receive benefits for the week beginning March 1, 2020, and for subsequent weeks if otherwise eligible.



Charlene A. Stawicki, Esq.
Member

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
DATE OF DECISION - September 23, 2021



Michael J. Albano
Member

Chairman Paul T. Fitzgerald, 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

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.

JMO/rh