Board of Review 19 Staniford St., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boston, MA 02114 Phone: 617-626-6400 Fax: 617-727-5874 Paul T. Fitzgerald, Esq. Chairman Charlene A. Stawicki, Esq. Member Michael J. Albano Member

## Issue ID: 0067 1652 98

## 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. We review, pursuant to our authority under G.L. c. 151A, § 41, and affirm.

On April 8, 2021, the agency initially determined that the claimant was not entitled to unemployment benefits. The claimant appealed and participated in the hearing. In a decision rendered on July 17, 2021, the review examiner affirmed the agency determination, concluding that the claimant was not available for full-time work and, thus, was disqualified under G.L. c. 151A, § 24(b). The Board accepted the claimant'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 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 May 31, 2020, and for subsequent weeks, until she meets the requirements of G.L. c. 151A, § 24(b).

Because the record indicates that the claimant may have suffered a loss of work as a direct result of the COVID-19 public health emergency, she may be eligible to file a PUA claim in Massachusetts.

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS DATE OF DECISION - September 30, 2021

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Charlene A. Stawicki, Esq. Member

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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: <u>https://ui-cares-act.mass.gov/PUA/\_/</u>. 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: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/courts/court-info/courthouses">www.mass.gov/courts/court-info/courthouses</a>

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.

SVL/rh