Good Cause Quit

Washington Law

Currently, Washington provides that an employee with "good cause" to leave his employ is not disqualified for benefits even though he voluntarily quits. The term "good cause" has taken on several meanings throughout the years, but has finally settled on an exclusive list of categories, as follows:

- 1. To accept bona fide job offer
- 2. Illness or disability of employee or immediate family
- 3. Employer-initiated layoffs or reductions in force.
- 4. Mandatory military transfer of spouse
- 5. Domestic violence and stalking
- 6. Reduction in compensation of twenty-five percent or more
- 7. Reduction in hours of twenty-five percent or more
- 8. Change in worksite location
- 9. Worksite safety
- 10. Illegal activities at the worksite
- 11. Change in usual work that violates religious or sincere moral belief
- 12. Entering approved apprenticeship training
- 13. Quitting part-time work

See W.A.C. §§ 192-150-050 et seq