

[TRANSLATION]

Citation: *S. S. v. Canada Employment Insurance Commission*, 2014 SSTAD 383

Appeal No. AD-13-1106

BETWEEN:

**S. S.**

Applicant

and

**Canada Employment Insurance Commission**

Respondent

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**SOCIAL SECURITY TRIBUNAL DECISION**  
**Appeal Division – Application for Leave to Appeal**

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SOCIAL SECURITY TRIBUNAL MEMBER: Pierre Lafontaine

DATE OF DECISION: December 18, 2014

## **DECISION**

[1] The Tribunal refuses leave to appeal to the Appeal Division of the Social Security Tribunal.

## **INTRODUCTION**

[2] On November 6, 2013, the General Division of the Tribunal found that:

- The Applicant voluntarily left his employment without just cause under sections 29 and 30 of the *Employment Insurance Act* (the Act).

[3] On November 29, 2013, the Applicant filed an application for leave to appeal with the Appeal Division.

## **ISSUE**

[4] The Tribunal must decide whether the appeal has a reasonable chance of success.

## **THE LAW**

[5] According to subsections 56(1) and 58(3) of the *Department of Employment and Social Development Act*, “an appeal to the Appeal Division may only be brought if leave to appeal is granted” and “the Appeal Division must either grant or refuse leave to appeal.”

[6] Subsection 58(2) of the *Department of Employment and Social Development Act* provides that “leave to appeal is refused if the Appeal Division is satisfied that the appeal has no reasonable chance of success.”

## **ANALYSIS**

[7] In accordance with subsection 58(1) of the *Department of Employment and Social Development Act*, the only grounds of appeal are that:

(a) the Board of Referees failed to observe a principle of natural justice or otherwise acted beyond or refused to exercise its jurisdiction;

(b) the Board of Referees erred in law in making its decision or order, whether or not the error appears on the face of the record; or

(c) the Board of Referees based its decision or order on an erroneous finding of fact that it made in a perverse or capricious manner or without regard for the material before it.

[8] A leave to appeal proceeding is a preliminary step to a hearing on the merits. It is a first hurdle for the Applicant to meet, but it is lower than the one that must be met on the hearing of the appeal on the merits. At the leave stage, the Applicant does not have to prove the case.

[9] The Tribunal will grant leave to appeal if the Applicant shows that one of the above-mentioned grounds of appeal has a reasonable chance of success.

[10] This means that the Tribunal must be in a position to determine, in accordance with subsection 58(1) of the *Department of Employment and Social Development Act*, whether there is a question of law, fact or jurisdiction whose response might justify setting aside the decision under review.

[11] Given the foregoing, does the Applicant's appeal have a reasonable chance of success?

[12] In his application for leave to appeal, the Applicant noted that the Tribunal was not impartial in its decision on November 6, 2013, and that it made errors of fact. However, the Applicant did not specify why the Tribunal was not impartial and did not indicate any of the errors of fact that were allegedly made.

[13] It is not for the Member, who must determine whether the appeal should proceed, to clarify the grounds of appeal or to assess or reweigh the evidence put before the Board of Referees.

[14] The Tribunal concludes that the appeal has no reasonable chance of success.

## **CONCLUSION**

[15] Leave to appeal is refused.

*Pierre Lafontaine*

Member, Appeal Division