

## **BOOKER HALL'S Permanent Disability Horror Story**

**The Schwarzenegger Administration's Disability Rating Schedule severely cuts benefits to permanently disabled workers.**



**About Me:** My name is Booker Hall. I'm 54 years old, and live in Fontana, in San Bernardino County.

**My Family:** I'm married, with three children. Justin, 30, is a teacher; Garrett, 26, is a minister of music at a Southern California parish; and, Taleah, 21, is graduating from CSU Fullerton in the spring.

**My Job and What Happened:** I worked for more than 20 years as a meat cutter and meat department manager, the last eight years for Ralphs. I had to work with the temperature near 40° so the meat would remain healthy. Years of cutting meat with a table saw, carrying heavy pieces of meat, climbing, stooping and standing wore out the cartilage in both of my knees. I am scheduled to have total knee replacement surgery on both of my knees on December 29th.

**What this has meant to my life:** I can't run, walk long distances, kneel, squat, or go up stairs much. I have a two-story home and have to sit down and go upstairs backwards like a little kid. I use a cane to go out of the house for any length of time, even to go to church. I'm proud, and I hate using that cane. I experience substantial pain after any amount of walking.

## **How the Governor's Schedule Affects Me**

**How Workers' Comp was supposed to help me:**

All I wanted was for them to fix my knees so I could go back to work. I doubt I will ever be able to return to my old job. I've lost tens of thousands of dollars in income. Now the governor's schedule leaves me with very little to make up for the lost earnings, the pain, the suffering, the inability to do necessary daily tasks, or enjoy life with my family.

**BEFORE**

**\$72,936**

**AFTER**

**\$28,490  
(Down 61%)**

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