

James Foley's Injured Worker Horror Story



“I ruined my knee breaking up a fight in the mental hospital where I worked. After a year of delays and denials, the insurance company approved a knee replacement. It failed. I’ve lost my job, our home and have no income.”

About Me: My name is James Foley. I am 54 years old, and live in Rolling Hills Estates, which is south of Los Angeles.

My Family: I am married to Lee and I have a grown stepdaughter.

My Job and What Happened: I worked as a program specialist for a mental hospital. I helped run the floor. In September 2005, a fight broke out on one of the floors and I was called to help break it up. In this scuffle, I fell to the floor and landed on my knee. I heard a pop as my knee hit the floor. I was put on light duty, but my knee did not improve. After about a year of delays and denials from the insurance company, I was eventually approved for a knee replacement. For the first few weeks my knee seemed okay. One day my knee was very swollen & painful. The doctor opened my knee back up and replaced the spacer, which helped for a few weeks. After many painful days and a few blood tests I found out that I am allergic to the titanium that is in my knee replacement. I now have to have another knee replacement or take pain medications for the rest of my life.

What this has meant to my life: I’ve lost my job. I am very worried about future work. I’ve had no source of income since January 2008. I have become very depressed. I am pretty much bedridden, icing my knee. I am totally broke, and my wife and I live with my father. I can no longer swim in the ocean or work out like I used to. I was once a very active man. Everything I do now is a struggle. This has been a living nightmare.

How the Governor's Workers' Comp Law Affects Me

How Workers' Comp was supposed to help me: Workers compensation is supposed to provide medical care to heal my injury, retraining for another job, and compensation for having to live with a bad knee and limited mobility for the rest of my life. How long will I have to wait for the approval for a new knee this time?

www.VotersInjuredatWork.org

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