

## LINDA VIERLING'S Injured Worker Horror Story

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**About Me:** My name is Linda Vierling. I'm 41 years old, and I live in Fair Oaks, near Sacramento.

**My Family:** I'm married, and my husband and I have two boys: Eric, age 14; and Max, age 9.

**My Job and What Happened:** I worked for Target Greatland Stores as a clerk. On February 15, 2006, I was standing on a ladder unstacking 40" TV sets. The ladder tipped and I fell, hitting both the ladder and a clothing rack before landing on the concrete floor. Two of the TV sets landed on top of me. I could not move I was in such pain. I was dizzy and couldn't even remember my husband's work phone number to call him. I went to the hospital and they found that I had broken one vertebra into three pieces. I also injured my knees, left hand and shoulder, and my right ankle and hip. I have developed severe nerve damage in my right foot.

**What this has meant to my life:** The insurance company fired my primary treating physician -- probably because her evaluation found me quite disabled. The insurance company took away my nurse case manager, denied payment to my spinal surgeon and denied prescriptions, pain management specialists, orthopedists and physical therapy. I am in constant excruciating pain. I can't walk without aid. I can't drive. I can't sleep well, kneel or bend down very far.

## How the Governor's Workers' Comp Law Affects Me

**How Workers' Comp was supposed to help me:** Workers compensation insurance was to provide medical care to heal my injuries, but recommended care is constantly denied. The insurance company has ruined my life, they have harmed my children's lives immensely by delaying my healing. The insurance adjustor does not respond to calls from my only remaining doctor. I am in constant pain, and the insurance company denies prescriptions for medication.

[www.VotersInjuredatWork.org](http://www.VotersInjuredatWork.org)

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