

ARTHUR FLORES' Permanent Disability Horror Story

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



About Me: My name is Arthur Flores. I'm 53 years old, and live in Downey, in Los Angeles County.

My Family: I'm married, with two sons. Justin, 33, is married with 3 children; and Dustin, 25.

My Job and What Happened: I worked as a truck driver for many years, making both local and long distance hauls. I injured my back, and doctors diagnosed me with a herniated disc. I have undergone 5 separate surgeries over the past two years. My back is what the doctors call a "failed back." I won't be able to return to my prior job, nor any similar work.

What this has meant to my life: I used to play golf and basketabl, bowl and work on motor-cycles. I can't do any of that anymore. My work injury has devastated me and my family. My lost earnings have put my family in financial distress. My wife has returned to work, but doesn't earn anything near what I made. I used to make a good living. Some nights we eat cold cereal and scrambled eggs for dinner. I couldn't even afford Christmas presents for my grandchildren. It's a daily struggle for me to just get through the day. My wife is being treated for stress because of the added burden Some days I just feel like ending it all.

How the Governor's Schedule Affects Me

How Workers' Comp was supposed to help me:

Workers compensation was supposed to provide compensation for my permanent disabilities from my work injury.

Instead, I am being left to subsist on social security disability.

Even the agreed upon neutral medical examiner believes that the new disability rating is, "absurd. It does not remotely adequately or accurately assess," my disability. 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

\$1,667,540

(Life expectancy
@ \$602 TD rate)

AFTER

\$7,316

**(Down
99.99%)**

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For more information, please contact Mark Hayes at 714/396-5260 or email to oneinjuredworker@aol.com