

ERIK NEUMAN'S Injured Worker Horror Story



“I was a detective doing anti-gang work until the day I was shot at work. I lost my leg, and my ability to do field police work. I can’t play ball with my son, Evan, or even carry my daughter, Emily, up to bed after she falls asleep. I have to pay others to do everyday things I used to do myself.

About Me: My name is Erik Neuman. I’m 35 years old and I live in Modesto.

My Job and What Happened: I am a Deputy Sheriff for the Stanislaus County Sheriff’s Dept. I have a degree in Law Enforcement and was a detective in the anti-gang unit of the department. On December 8, 2004, I was undergoing sniper training with three other deputies. I was walking down the shooting range when another deputy accidentally discharged his weapon. The bullet hit my leg from behind and shattered my quadriceps, femur and femoral artery. I was helicoptered to the hospital and underwent surgery to amputate my leg above the knee. I’ve since returned to work as a deputy doing desk work. I can’t do field work.

What this has meant to my life: I loved my job as a field deputy, and I have returned to desk work as I’m limited in the duties I can perform. It’s great to be working, but my life is not the same in any way. Outside of work, I was a very active outdoorsman and father. I ran every day. Now, I can’t play baseball with my son. I can’t even carry my daughter up to bed when she falls asleep. My family has suffered financial hardship due to my injury. My wife, Seanna lost three months of her salary while helping me recuperate from my injury. I have accumulated many bills for special equipment and services needed due to the loss of my leg. I have to pay others to do many things I used to do myself. I can’t even do yard work, so we have to pay a gardener.

**BEFORE
\$178,000
AFTER
\$23,000**

How the Governor's Workers' Comp Law Affects Me

How Workers' Comp was supposed to help me: Workers compensation insurance was to provide compensation for my permanent disability from my work injury. The Permanent Disability award is to compensate me for my lost future earnings, and for living with one leg for the rest of my life because of my work injury. I gave my leg to my job, and am still proud to be in public safety. The loss of income and extra burdens of living with one leg for the rest of my life will be thousands of dollars.

www.VotersInjuredatWork.org

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