

CHARLES SPEAR'S Injured Worker Horror Story

“A truck ran over my foot at work and I lost my leg. I’ve been living on nearly nothing for two years. Now, the governor’s schedule would award me just \$29,150 for living the rest of my life with one leg. Is that all I’m worth?”



About Me: My name is Charles Spear. I’m 57, and I live in Stockton.

My Family: I’m single, and I have no children.

My Job and What Happened: I worked as a trucker for Williams Tank Lines. On May 12, 2004, a truck carrying a full load pulled out of the refinery. My right leg was sucked under the back of his trailer, running over my heel, crushing the bones like potato chips. That night, they amputated my leg 6 inches below the knee.

What this has meant to my life: My life has been hell since my work injury. I can’t do the things I used to do: play soft-ball, run, fish (I can’t get my prosthetic leg wet), work on my cars. I can’t even change my oil, because I can’t get down on my hands and knees. Well, I can get down, I just can’t get back up! I’m depressed and alone. I can’t go back to my old job, and haven’t gotten training for a new one.

**BEFORE
\$57,200**

**AFTER
\$29,150**

How the Governor's Workers' Comp Law Affects Me

How Workers' Comp was supposed to help me: I was to receive compensation for the loss of my leg. The governor’s system awards me \$29,150 to last for the rest of my life. I have had to borrow from friends just to make ends meet. How am I to live the rest of my life on this amount?

www.VotersInjuredatWork.org

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