

## COLEEN DELVECCHIO'S Injured Worker's Horror Story

**“I didn’t become permanently disabled for life by choice. But I have to deal with the cards I have been dealt. I don’t understand how our governor and the insurance companies can take a disabled person like myself, cut off ALL financial aide and basically sentence me to homelessness, bankruptcy and the loss of everything I have worked so hard for.”**



**About Me:** My name is Coleen Delvecchio. I am 35 years old. I’m single, with no children. I live in San Pedro, in Los Angeles County.

**My Job and What Happened:** I worked as an Account Supervisor for an advertising agency for 15 years. While working at a promotional event in June 2004, I had to lift several product stands without any help. I ruptured a disc in my back. In May 2005, I underwent surgery, and my failed disc was replaced with an artificial disc, which has also since failed. Another surgery was recommended by my doctor, but has been denied twice by the insurance carrier. My nerves are badly damaged. I wanted to return to my old job, but was forced out, with my employer telling me there was no position for me.

**What this has meant to my life:** I was once a very active person who enjoyed riding my Harley, rock climbing, playing tennis and riding my bicycle. I am now unable to do any of those activities. I am heavily medicated every day just to deal with the pain. I suffer from deep depression, don’t socialize, and sleep most of the day. My housekeeping care was revoked for no reason. My Temporary Disability was cut off, and I have no income. I don’t even have money for groceries. I’m disabled for life and am about to become homeless.

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

**How Workers' Comp was supposed to help me:** I was promised medical care to heal and return to work, temporary disability support, and compensation for my permanent disabilities. I have been denied medical care, therapy to heal, and my disability payments have been cut off. I had to file bankruptcy and face eviction. The insurance company denied surgery, then cut off my Temporary Disability because I haven’t fully healed in 24 months. It sickens me. I guess you CAN put a price on someone’s life.

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

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