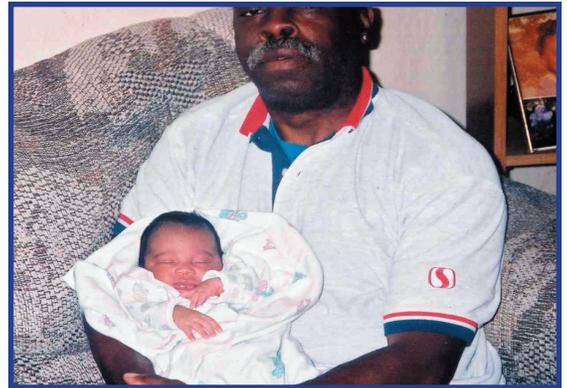


James Powell's Injured Worker Horror Story

“I was a Safeway meat cutter for 30 years. My shoulder wore out, and I need surgery. The insurer delayed physical therapy so long my shoulder froze. They denied treatment and cut off temporary disability.”



About Me: My name is James Powell. I am 60 years old and I live in Fairfield.

My Family: I am married to Connie and we have two grown children, Cynthia and Catherine.

My Job and What Happened: I have worked at Safeway since 1971. I was a meat cutter. As meatcutters, we work in very cold temperatures and there is a great deal of stress on the shoulder from lifting and cutting meat. My shoulder had been bothering me for some time. When I could no longer lift my right arm without the help of my other arm I went to the doctor. An MRI showed a tear in my rotator cuff. I have had three surgeries and I am still unable to return to my position at Safeway. The delays in authorization for physical therapy have resulted in a frozen shoulder. I now need another surgery.

What this has meant to my life: I have lost my job. I have fallen way behind on our bills. My daughter has taken on the responsibility of paying our bills. She has had to take on a second job. I am no longer able to fish like I used to.

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. I have not been able to return to work since 2005. My daughter is having to pay my bills. The system is horrible for injured workers, but great for insurance companies.

www.VotersInjuredatWork.org

For more information, please contact Steve Hopcraft at 916/457-5546 or email to steve@hopcraft.com