

Permanent Disability Horror Story No. 3 Juana Yolanda Jimenez

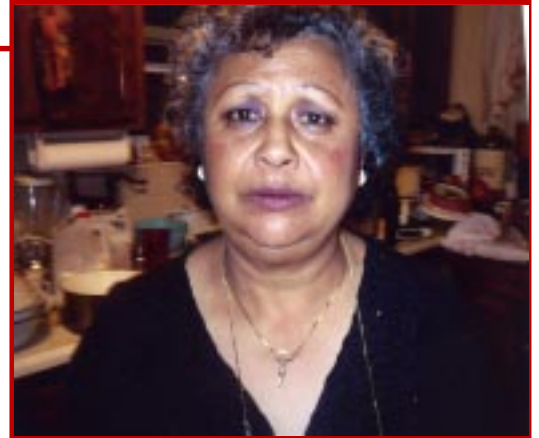
The Schwarzenegger Administration's Disability Rating Schedule severely cuts benefits to permanently disabled workers.

About Me: My name is Juana Yolanda Jimenez. I am 59 years old and was born in Guatemala. I am a U.S. citizen and I live in San Pablo, near Oakland.

My Family: My husband and I have raised five children, ages 22 to 37.

My Job and What Happened: I have worked at the Hyatt Regency Embarcadero in San Francisco as a room cleaner for the past 20 years. Several years ago I fell while cleaning a bathroom, and by May 2004, I was in such pain I couldn't continue to work. I had ruptured 3 disks in my back, and my doctor asked for permission to do a back fusion. However, the insurance company wouldn't approve that surgery, so he performed a laminectomy. Unfortunately, that surgery was unsuccessful, and I am now living with severe back pain.

What this has meant to my life: I have lost my job at the Hyatt. I can't clean my own home, much less guest rooms. I have had one surgery, and am awaiting more. I can't walk any distance or lift more than 10 pounds. I used to dance with my husband, Hector, but I can't dance anymore. I can't sit or stand for any period of time. I have pain in my legs and miss living life as I used to.



How the Governor's Schedule Affects Me

How Workers' Comp was supposed to help me:

The Permanent Disability Compensation is my SOLE replacement for my lost future earnings due to my work injury's long-term effects. It is also my ONLY compensation for the chronic pain, mental anguish, inability to do normal daily life activities, take walks, or enjoy and participate in family or social outings.

BEFORE	AFTER
\$143,153 (\$111.563 PPD, plus expected life pension of \$31,590)	\$22,050 (Total, for life!)

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