

I am a 59-year-old woman and have been on Worker's Comp. since April 2021. I was injured in January 2021 by an autistic nonverbal young boy. He punched me in the back as he was running in gym class. He was very angry because he did not get his way,. I continued working, taking just over-the-counter meds, example Tylenol, and Motrin to get through the workday. In April, I just did not have the strength to continue to do my job as a teacher assistant to autistic children, my body was in so much pain all the time and I wasn't sleeping . I could hardly even take care of myself. I have been through chiropractic, physical therapy, acupuncture, epidurals, X-rays, MRIs, nerve testing and have done many other things to alleviate my pain. Unfortunately, in Jan of 2022, I decided to have neck surgery. Spinal Fusion and wore a collar 24/7 for approximately 6 weeks .My doctor performed the surgery and once again I went through, PT and also did home exercises as much as my body would tolerate. I have been on soooo many different types of medications for pain and inflammation and sleep , along with anxiety and depression meds. My life will never be the same. Workmen's Comp. has been an absolute nightmare, almost everything that I am prescribed has gone through level, one level two and most of the time level three until my lawyer intervenes, and then magically meds are approved. I have also used my own medical insurance because the need was so great for the medicine That I would submit reimbursement to Worker's Comp. and they still have not paid a lot of my travel mileage expenses or reimbursements from the year of 2022 till present. Unfortunately, due to my injury and the pain that I was in, I still had to pay my mortgage and my other bills Worker's Comp. is not a lot of money, so I had to retire from my school district and apply for my pension, which they taxed and penalized me for early withdrawal, I also applied for Social Security and between the two. It's still not enough to pay my mortgage. The Workmen's Comp. doctors are an absolute joke. I can barely take care of myself certain days, hygienically speaking, dressing walking sitting driving was impossible due to my range of motion .Would you want me to take care of your child with special needs when I couldn't walk climb stairs, bend over sit for long periods of time occasionally run if the child was a runner. Workmans comp needs to be more compliant with the injured workers needs

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I would like to start off by Saying To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Christina Fabiano-Riccio I worked for AHRC Of Nassau Of Nassau County... I worked in Seaford, NY in a wonderful work place with 30 individuals and 10 staff members... When Covid hit they cleaned down the Hub Site and they sent us to private homes to work out of Net work... I worked originally on the south shore and they put me on the north shore which was 30 minutes from my original location ... I worked in a private home with 7 individuals which was under staffed because of COVID... I must of worked there for 3 months March-June 2020 with the same girl Leslie she was non-verbal and behavioral... I never had a problem with her... I would get there by 7:30am -2:30 Sandra Burke with another staff member and my day with Leslie would start by her waking up... at 7:30 going to the bathroom to clean up and then get dressed, having breakfast and let her rest before taking her for a walk, now mind you Leslie is about 5"10 and 250 lbs and I'm 5"4... 127 lbs we walked every day about 5 miles for exercise for her... this was a every day routine... then after her and I walked we would go back to the house and she would rest and have lunch then she would sit in the room to the left when you walked into the house... that's where her Couch was and there was another couch on the other wall and a recliner which I sat in so she couldn't run out of the room unless she needed something... she has a obsession with the laundry room and sometimes she just started choas... with others where the men of the house would have to basically get physical with her and hold her down... I could not do that because I was a loaner from AHRC of Nassau... so that is what our day would consist of...

Until June 15, 2020 my day started out as usual of everything above that I was explaining To Whom This May Concern: Except when we came back on June 15, 2020 we came back from our walk she

had lunch and we went into the room where she watched "The Little Mermaid " "Aladdin " "The Lion King " the point is that was her mental mindset... well the TV black out and I said to Leslie no worries Leslie I'll fix the TV!!! 📺 I got up to fix the TV and that was the first thing I remember then the next thing I remember was being on the floor while Leslie was on top of me trying to bite my face and being understaffing I was yelling for help... Until Sandra Burke and the AMAP girl came and pulled her off of me... and when they did I was in shock and I went in to fight or flight and all's i wanted to do was go home... not realizing that that my neck and lower back was broke I was rushed to my primary care doctor Dr. L Goldstein and he gave me a cortisone shot in the neck... and next my nephew Michael brought me to the emergency room... Then that's when I started with Physicians, Pain Management Doctor, Orthopedic Doctors, Psychiatrist, and Behavioral Therapy I have a extreme case of PTSD I've had 4 major surgeries on my neck and back and the first 2 were unsuccessful then I had 2 more with Dr. David Matusz he had to remove and replace the first doctors work... And worker's compensation has been denied me physical therapy and wants to take away all of My doctors needs for me to get better... I WAS A HEALTHY TOMBOY MOTHER THAT RAISED TO AMAZING SON'S FOR 14YEARS From their father passing I was Their Strength to become wonderful men... And Age Is just a number I have been active all my life and worked out for 57 years and now I can't workout or basically do anything anymore... My life has become stagnating...

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Dear workers compensation boards attorneys and insurance,  
I am writing to you to express my deepest appreciation for your complete lack of regard for human lives and the situations that arise out of life. Your group of earth destroying demons has had its time. It is now time for you to be exposed. I have had enough of your incomprehensible logic and the fact that you are so cavalier with the health and lives of others that you are supposed to help. No one wants to stand up to you because they are afraid. You have taken everything I have worked for. You have separated me from my family. I have nothing left. I am far from afraid. I have sit back and watched so much unfair mess unfold. The people that need to suffer are not. They are thriving. I was unconscious for 3 days and I woke up a totally different person. But life at NYSIF is vibrant and live. If only common sense was a job requirement.  
Workers compensation logic is the most backwards out of date way of thinking I have ever been introduced to.  
Example: You say that you will reimburse for travel at an astronomical rate of \$0.67 per mile. I live in Brooklyn but 90% of my IMEs are in Manhattan. Workers Compensation logic says that I should come to Manhattan. That is 14 miles. Apparently there are no doctors in Brooklyn. I am hurt. I can not take public transportation nor can I drive that far. My only option is a car service. A one way trip to my favorite IME quack who commits malpractice at an alarming rate, is \$120 for 14 miles no tip. Now lets do regular human math.  $120 \div 14 = \$8.57$  per mile. Now lets do workers compensation math.  $\$0.67 \times 14 = \$9.38$  for total trip. Just to be clear, I pay \$240 to be reimbursed \$20. Your math is not mathing. This is 2024 please tell me how this makes sense? In 1989 , when a taxi was just \$25 and gas was \$1 per gallon this would make sense. If I am not compliant you stop the coins that is supposed to be for me. I am not working and I am living off of the money that you are giving me. I am forced to make hard choices like no food or hygiene products just to satisfy your inconsiderate demands. The board approved my transportation one time. Seemingly the transportation was to expensive for the all knowing board. However the cost was not supposed to be a problem for me. I paid on four different occasions. Needless to say I no longer go to that IME. How does this even

make sense?

Why did the judge make a court order that I was supposed to be paid bi weekly ? I wonder if the judge knows that according to workers compensation logic, bi weekly means every 20 to 30 days. I pay my bills on time just like everyone else. If you guys are not complying to the judgement , how am I expected to live? I came to NY to advance my career. I would not be vocal at all had I been negligent and injured myself. The amount of loss I have endured because of this accident should be illegal. I am being punished for something I did not do. My career is over. You guys do not care. It shows.

Example: The workers compensation board with your esteemed collection of colleagues acknowledges that they know my hip was injured at work but because of the way your protocols are set up, I will not be able to receive treatment. However, your IME Drs can comment and exam those areas but my own doctors can not. IME doctors can not recommend treatment. Why do they get to examine a body part that my own doctor can not. Then I am reminded of the heated debate I had with the boards representative, "We do not care that this injury has caused you extreme pain. We do not care that your hip injury has caused you to have a deformity or limp. We do not care that your own insurance will not let you receive treatment because it was a stated work injury. We only care about the malpractice that our doctors present to the judge so that a decision can be made on that malpractice. Go to work. No one cares about the back surgeries , spinal fusions, rhizotomies, steroid injects, shoulder surgery ,TBIs or your mental health. Your health is not important. We would rather spend our money on our quacks ,private investigation and ourselves. Please take this couple of thousand dollars and go work."

Meanwhile I have the same injuries the same limitations the same long term disabilities as a person that I do therapy with. The difference is he was in a car accident. How is it that we have the same injuries but my damages are 1% of his first offer that he declined? I was told that the insurance are not the same. It's convenient for workers compensation insurance companies. My injuries are significant. I let my diagnostics do the talking. Those can not be faked or made up. You don't even have to take my word for it . Just look at my X-rays MRI'S, cognitive test and physicians notes. Unlike you guys, I can not afford to pay physicians to commit malpractice. My whole medical team was chosen for their integrity and competency. I am not worth their license or their oath. Had I not needed anything that was requested , it would not be recommended. My team of doctors honor their reputation. This is something each IME ORTHOPEDIC physician can learn from. It's really funny how other specialist do not care about your protocols and they guard their reputation with nothing but honesty. Is this the reason that I only got to see those IME Drs one time? The neurologist was honest. The psychiatrist did not even want to participate in your shenanigans. What is the purpose of getting all of these opinions if you only want to hear those created on "under diagnoses" or dismissal of injuries all together. The only winner here is the insurance. Oddly the injury in an injury case is not even important. What is important are these closed door pissing contest between counselors complete injustice , and biased judges. How has the justice system become such a perverted mockery?

I am treated inhuman. I am no better than a chicken who can no longer lay eggs. I'm cast aside to deal with all of this stuff. All of the nightmares about being attacked ,extreme pain, suicidal thoughts, and a complete sense of helplessness. My future is as black as I am. Who will hire me? I take 10 to 12 pills a day just to be able to get out of bed but not before I finally take enough medication to go to bed. Certain pictures or color combinations trigger nausea. I can no longer do simple math. I can not stand long. I can not sit long. I am as focused as a dog who sees a squirrel. I can not lift. Bending down causes vertigo nausea and pain. I can not drive at night because the traffic lights and headlights put me in a trance like a deer. The Panic attacks are unpredictable. I have a home aide.

According to you and your WC logic, I should be working. You guys do realize that I have a very dangerous career. I said career because I have been working with animals since I was volunteering in middle school. I am great at my job. My experience is the reason I have not had an accident in 25 years of being an animal nurse. My accident was not even caused by me I tried to prevent it. My accident was caused by the negligence and pride of the physician that I was working with . She is doing great at her new second home in the Poconos. She is protected by you. I suffer and loose it all, she buys another property. Seems fair. You guys know that. Just like you know about the witnesses who said I was thrown around the room like a rag doll. Yet here we are still discussing my lack of treatment, my ignored injuries and you guys being blatantly disrespectful for human life. The way I have been limping around with my leg falling off is cruel and unusual punishment. Why am I being punished. If I was going to make up injuries it would not be a hip with a high grade tear that requires surgery. I forgot that my initial diagnostics post accident included a MRI of the said area. I'm still confused as to why my hip was excluded. You gave no logical explanation only a Workers Compensation explanation that said absolutely nothing.

Speaking of nothing , let's address the real elephant. Damages. How is it that my injuries are substantial my future is limited and I am 100% disabled in the site of the federal government because they really like to give out disability and ssdi however, Workers Compensation logic says that I'm fine and that I should just go to work. Everyone says that the damages from workers compensation is very low in comparison to other kinds of accidents. However Workers compensation has no limit or cap on paper but has a price for each body part in real life. Since you can put a number on body parts, please contact Amazon so they can participate. I would rather deal with them . You guys are a headache. How are WC damages so low when the injuries are the same as other kinds of accidents. How is it that my case would be worth 8 figures had I been in any other kind of accident? I was told it depends on the severity of your profession. That is odd because I have a more dangerous job than any construction worker. Everywhere in the world animal handlers veterinarians and animal support staff are in the top 7 most dangerous jobs. Construction workers barely round out in the top 10. Then I was told the insurance is different. I argued that the paperwork is the only difference. The law language in Workers comp was designed for the employer not the employee. Employees come a dime a dozen just like cattle sheep or chickens. The roll of Workers compensation is protect the business not the life that the business took. The rich stay rich and the poor get poorer due to injuries that were ignored by Workers compensation. Where is the justice in this ? You guys took my life. My life is worth more than the measly pennies that you want to offer. So from me to you , we will be here a while. The more you play , the more I play. You play with my health , I play with your reputation. It's just that simple. This letter will be posted to Facebook and also it will be cc'd to every senator assembly person state representative and news station. I will not let you guys take my life from me for free. I will fight hurt, broke, homeless, and hungry. You will not take any more from me. I will be heard. This is only the beginning so get comfortable. The countless life's that you guys have ruined is prodigious. Do you know how many more horrible stories people have about NYSIF ? Even the anonymous stories of people who signed NDAs are appalling. You need to be dismantled. I get that you have to find out if people are faking injuries but how many test do I need to take?. How many doctors do I need to visit? For so long You guys have been way to complacent and comfortable with ruining lives that you do not live, then moving on like you did nothing wrong. It's time that you get investigated like you investigate me. All things come to an end. I hope that each and everyone of you meets your end as gracefully as I met mine. Thanks for the drama. I have lost a number of battles with you. I promise you this I will not lose the war.

Cheerfully,  
Ingra Barnwell

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To whom it may concern:

I have been on Workers Compensation for Ten years, since the beginning of the processes things have been hard to recuperate with my work injury I have surgery on my spine I also have nerve damage on my legs, it has been a long journey. Workers Compensation have limited the doctors visit, medications and physical therapy, the case was set up to have medical for the rest of my life and Doctor and medicatio would be paid, as I see everything it been difficult to approve through Workers Compensation. Doctors stop my visits because either they don't paid my Doctor or the paperwork is difficult to understand, I was on Mental Health medication for quite some time and I never receive the medication on time because Workers Compensation never approved the Rx on time, Doctor requested to continue my treatment and again Workers Compensation either take time or denied. Mental health is a big issue as well any other type of treatments the prosses and the system are not helping me to recuperate the way I need to, I'm disable for life, my condition haven't been able to alleviate or improve, I believe by going to Doctor, Physical therapy and have my medications on time I would get better. I been suffer with anxiety, depression and physical pain. I'm just praying that someone can hear me, I believe that I'm not the only person going through the same situation. I am humbly grateful for the person that's taken the time to read this letter.  
Thank you.

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It certainly is a pleasure to be able to express my opinion about my experience with WComp. I have been involved with Workman's Comp for almost 8 years. I can say this was my first experience and it was not very pleasant. My first surgery was in 2018 where I went to Brooklyn hospital waited 8 hours and then was informed that they could not perform my surgery. I had not eaten for almost 24 hours. It was the worst. I had hip problems knee problems back problems neck problems my left hand was persistently numb. Although MRIs were taken they prolonged surgery to my right knee. In 2022 surgery was performed on my right knee. They numbed my entire leg when I walked in the door of my apartment I fell braking my ankle in two places because of these consequential injuries I was taken my ambulance to the hospital for emergency surgery. All I could do was pray. How could this happen to me. To date I still have no feeling in my right upper thigh. At times I was not given any physical therapy and almost had to beg to receive it. I still have extreme numbness in my left hand and it stays swollen I was told after doctor read the report that my wrist was sprained and I had carpal tunnel syndrome. I was once a dancer before being employed for the city of New York now I am is all broke up. It has taken a mental toll on me. I will never be the same. I suffer from Anxiety, PTSD and depression. I had to be hospitalized at the psychiatric unit in the Bronx. I would not wish this on my worst enemy. At times they don't send my check and I have to inform my Attorneys. I was employed for the City of New York since 1985 and I have never experienced such indignation. No one cares or wants to take care of Employees who put there time energy and care for others. I was employed at ACS since 1998. I ensure that each child on my caseload was safe but no one cares about me or my well being. In the words of Michael Jackson "all I want to say is that they don't really care about us". This is not easy my life has changed drastically but I'm a fighter and I will fight until the end. Most of us suffer in silence or complain to each other. I am so grateful that I am able to express my concerns and feelings to those who maybe able to change things for others. At this time I have been informed that there is nothing more they can do for me and are closing my case. No medication no more physical therapy nothing. PLEASE HELP.

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Hello, I have currently been out on Comp for two years. I was a youth development specialist at (Crossroads) juvenile detention center in Brooklyn, New York, While trying to break up a fight, I was physically hurt and subjected to spit in the face assault. I have not had the best experiences with the

law office that is representing me. Once my attorney left their office I have had a total of five different attorneys represent me during my Worker's Comp hearings. Each new attorney reviewed my case the day of the hearing, which really upsets me even after making complaints about it. I've had experiences with the judge who would delay my case if an IME report was not received, despite having all evidence from Worker's Comp. physicians and my attorney. During my last hearing in 2023 the judge had ruled that my Worker's Comp. check would be suspended which left me and my toddler having to survive off my savings. During that time it was the month of November right before Thanksgiving. I have yet to receive a workers Compensation check again. I have not been able to even be called during my hearings despite being me asking my attorney during our briefing but the judge does not call me for testimony nor allow me to be able to listen in on the hearing. I have a hearing this month and I would hope that I would be able to be present during that hearing so that I can hear for myself what is taking place in regard to my case. I still experience a lot of pain physically and sometimes mentally and I am trying to push through it because they have decided that I need to begin looking for work. I have began taking online courses to complete my bachelor degree so I can find better work here in NYC to support myself and my toddler daughter.

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To whom it may concern:

My name is Diane Rivera I am a 67 year old woman who was injured on 8/11/2019. On 8/26/22 / I had to have spine surgery which kept me in the hospital for 6 days. Spinal fusion, rod to support my spine. Oct. 2023 ha an original that showed I have another herniated disc L5 s1 that needs surgery and workers comp has denied it 2x they denied pain meds. I have been on a muscle relaxer for spine spasms for 2 yrs. That I pay out of pocket. Workers comp has caused me so much anxiety that I had to seek counseling from a therapist at the advice of my attorney. Both of my doctors have said I am 100% disabled and cannot work. W/c has forced me to see a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

Which I did. Then I had to register with the labor department then I was sent Career Freedom center to get computer skills which I tried for 2 months until my pain became so bad I couldn't sit for more than 1/2 hour and then had to go home to take meds. The pain gets so bad. I can't go out walking like I used to I have to have help with grocery shopping can't lift more than 5lbs. Had many epidural they don't help and cause my diabetes to get worse. This has wrecked me mentally physically and emotionally. I was told it was a directive that I do 5-7 job searches a day. But I don't qualify for any of them. I worked in my field 31 yrs. I retired in 2020 due to my injury.

And now I feel like I'm in he'll because of w/c their demands are unreasonable

And now they refused to pay my therapist who is a w/c therapist none of this makes sense. I give thanks to Governor Hochel for causing this hell for everyone on disability and w/c. I understand weeding out the fraud but I have tons of medical records that I am suffering.

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I have experienced a multitude of injustices from the insurance companies the attorneys dealing with comp. and finding medical providers who accept comp . I have been refused meds. particularly post operative medicine, which hindered any chance of recovery. I have experienced late payments or missing payments necessitating seeking help from elected officials in regards to securing medical treatment and, payments. The elected officials have done nothing but, weakened the comp. laws for the working individuals. It seems that, the insurance industry no longer influences the legislators, they write the legislation and, tell the elected officials, pass this for us. Of course there will be

campaign contributions in this regard . I personally have counseled others to never claim an injury at work because, they will be punished and, most likely receive inadequate or no treatment. I have also been accused by the insurance company of committing insurance fraud on multiple occasions requiring me to spend time in court. Every time the judge found no evidence of fraud. After this failed I was turned into the IRS for tax fraud which, was also dismissed. Claim an on the job injury and, the victim gets punished. A totally corrupt system.

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Respectfully to the New York Senate,

I was injured at work and have been receiving work mens comp.

During this time I have experienced many difficult times attempting to navigate the insurance company maze.

I have run out of medication because they refused to approve my prescriptions. My physical therapy was stopped with no explanation.

For 30 days I was unable to go to physical therapy. I have no idea why.

The insurance co. has sent me for numerous IME(independent medical examinations). When the insurance co. Doctor agreed with my personal physician regarding my condition that I was permanently disabled they would send me for another IME. Again when their Dr. concurred with mine they sent me for yet another IME. I was sent to the same Doctors over and over again for years.

Finally after 8 long years when all their Doctors agreed with my Dr. that I was totally disabled they pressured one IME doctor to lower my disability to 75%. After 8 years they finally decided to classify my disability.

This has caused me an untold amount of anguish. Instead of receiving the total disability that my Doctor and THEIR IME doctors agreed on, I now was granted partial disability. Soon I will no longer receive the work mens compensation that I should.

I am tired of playing the insurance company game. They would send me for an IME 30 miles from home when I could have seen their doctor in my hometown. This is to inconvenience the patient and make them give up. Shame on the insurance company and shame on my previous employer. I have worked 2 jobs most of my life.

By the way my company fired me after being on workmens comp. for a year and a half. I kept my small pension, but lost my medical and dental insurance. At this point I am paying \$400.00/mo. for secondary insurance. My rates go up each year. How am I supposed to pay for this? The extra money from total disability would have bridged the gap.

This system is so broken. We have little to no rights as the injured party.

Please HELP.

Thank you for anything you may be able to do.

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Things are really stressful while out on workers comp. I had a bad experience while out on workers comp with an ime doctor, he was very rude and dismissive to me and my differential pay was cut. The stress from the job alone is enough to make you wanna force yourself back to work even before you're doing better. Honestly, it almost feels like you're punished for being injured on the job. This is why a lot of my coworkers don't bother to get treatment or take any time off from work to get well, they just force themselves to deal with it. I am currently in the same position, constantly worrying about when I'll be threatened to get back to work or face termination. I want to make sure my head is in the right place so I can be productive at work and do the best job I can. It is really hard to recover while you're constantly worrying about being threatened by the MTA. I'd like to remain anonymous, the repercussions of this email will add to my worrying. Thank you very much

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I have been dealing with Workers Comp for over 5 years.

I was turned down for physical therapy several times. They also denied medications my doctors prescribed and recommended that I take. Have to wait for approval on any treatment the doctor prescribed. Turned down second epidural lumbar steroid shot because the first one did not work. Doctor said it could take up to three shots. Part of my diagnosis is PTSD when driving. I have no one to drive me so I had to drive myself to all of the workers comp doctors. They were usually very far out of town. One doctor was over 50 miles away! I had to leave home early in the morning and make frequent stops so I could get there. Coming home was the same. Took me all day. My blood pressure must have been very high that day. Workers comp doctor said I was ok to work 8 hours a day. I could barely walk. I walked about 20 feet into his office, sat down, then walked another 10 feet into exam room. Once inside exam room he did not even examine me! Another worker comp doctor called me a malingerer!! It has been 5 1/2 years of pain and suffering, phone call after phone call to doctors and lawyers. I also am required to see the original doctor I went to after the accident. He must see me every 6 weeks. I finally did have massive back surgery. Fusions T-10 to Sacrum, and several Laminectomies. At this point I am still recovering. My doctor asks for 18 physical therapy visits to start and I get 12 or 6, then have to beg for more. I am making progress but it's taking some time. My muscles have all shrunk from not walking correctly due to all the pain I have been in. I am hoping to walk upright again but progress has been slow. Still have muscle fatigue and can not walk very far. I am praying workers comp continues my physical therapy. This journey has made me suffer from depression and I do not enjoy most things that used to give me pleasure. I am hoping with continued therapy I will feel better once again. I do not sleep well and the psychiatrist prescribed a sleep aid. Finally got that prescription filled after 6 months. It has been so long since the accident I do not even know who is handling my case at workers comp. My case has been handed off several times and I lost track of who that is. It's been a rough road. In my opinion if you give a patient what the doctor prescribes in a timely fashion it would save a lot of suffering and also save money in the long run. Thank you for your attention in this matter

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Dear Dr,

Enclosed is an email about recent NIGHTMARES that started on May 6th as a direct result of investigators' surveillance. The lack of medical treatment PT for months, pain, lies about shots I never had. This undermines my ability to heal, feel safe, focus, and study to create a new career at 67.

My job at Pronovias USA ( Couture Bridal Sales ) involves lifting 50 lbs in bridal sales, carrying gowns up and down stairs, some 30lb gowns dozens of times a day, four brides each to be shown in 50 minutes rushing, lifting plastic bags on and off every gown off racks from the ceilings hundreds



possibly thousands of times a day and being on foot for 8 hours daily and much more Physical labor ( job description below ).

As a direct result of my hard fall on Feb 19th, 2023. I can't work as a sales stylist in a demanding physical job career, and I am now Im 100% disabledd  
I must accept that I cannot return to the fashion career I'm passionate about. It's heartbreaking, all I know and love. I was very proud of all the women I helped on one of the biggest days of their lives. I was I had 5-star reviews on Google and was even hired because of my following and 5-star reviews.

Im forced to try to start a NEW career, start ALL OVER AGAIN at age 67, and go back to school to create a new nonphysical job once and IF Im am able to focus and also depending on my recovery from #10 pain, brain whiplash and nerve damage testing, torn foot and limp ( that Dr say I just have to learn to learn to live with the torn foot pain as the surgery is horrific nightmare )

It's hard to focus when I'm in # 10 pain from head to toe & every step of the way the Insurance company lies, gaslights and has fails to provide the normal humane medical treatment and an aide as mandatory by BY STATE law.

It is hard enough to cope with the # 10 pain and hard enough to heal and focus without being followed around and filmed without my permission & failure of normal humanitarian medical treatment & nurse aide to prevent falling/lifting.

Again, the stress and expense of getting my aide is very stressful, depressing & anxiety provoking, and a distressful situation as a direct result of the Insurance company who jerks me around, is disrespectful towards me, lies about medical treatment that I never received, has investigators putting me under surveillance, triggering nightmares, PTSD and duress.

Insurance Company refused in the past to get me PT for 3 months on and off at a time and aide as NYS law requires ( broken shoulder ) torn hip, neck whiplash, possible brain whiplash or brain injury, three herniated discs in neck back, nerve damage, irreversible damage on torn right bottom foot, torn hip, sprained ankle, broken knee then torn knee then knee surgery, fractured teeth and constant falls from knee bucking causing me to fall.

I'm a senior citizen, live alone ( anxiety of falling alone), and have no relatives or neighbors to check on me when I fall—

Being followed undermined every step of the way for data, weeks and months on end all  
Triggering my PTSD ( was healed as I was 5 stars in sales and the Company profited until I fell on Feb 19, 2023 )

My life ihas been wrecked as a direct result of the hard fall at work and treatmentby Insurance 3rd party Dr all the duress, adding trauma, depression, anxiety, and stress to an already very 100% disabling situation.

Thank You for your time, I will send you an earlier correspondence to the doctor so you will have the facts of how my case fell through the cracks repeatedly.

You have my permission to pull all the reports and request them from my Sugeon and pain management Drs at Hudson Pro Orthopedics.

I will be having memory and neurological testing soon as well. Another epidural will take place on Friday, and Dr. Keyvan Jahanbakhsh (Anesthesiology, Pain Medicine 143 W29th St.) told me I will need BACK SURGERY if this doesn't work! ( terrifying )

As discussed in our last session, I have been using ethereal prayers and meditation as a tool for healing. ( but the PTSD nightmares continue)

Thank You for the PTSD app. My ( healed ) PTSD has been triggered many times since I fell on Feb 19th as a direct result of investigators, lack of medical treatment, and aides causing 14 falls in the past month, including another last Monday.

I was obviously doing a 5 star job at Pronovias USA and functioning at the highest level before the fall!

This mockery of a human facing possible BACK and KNEE surgery after being a highly successful SNL actress, top model, and couture fashion stylist (salesperson) is crushing news. I lost my parents, 2 ex-husbands and now my ability to earn a living in my passionate fashion career job!

I depend on my appearance to earn a living. Walking with a limp and the thought of having Hugh scares up my leg and knee or back and not being able to stand and lift 50lbs destroyed my ability to earn a living!

Again I repeat the constant stress of investigators, emotional abuse, invasion of my privacy, lack of medical treatment when needed causing delays in recovery and limping on top of the pain of broken bones and back/ neck herniations, irreversible foot damage causing limping and lies by 3rd party Drs for Insurance companies - all of this and as a direct result triggers my PTSD daily.

I can't focus on studying while under surveillance and in pain, and I need medical treatment and the help of an aide. I'm not safe & could fall for all the reasons named above.

The PT hears the bones popping in my knee, and all the Dr say I will, at some point, I will need a knee replacement and possible back surgery - I feel as if the nurse evaluators have approved me for long-term care what wrong with The Hartford Insurance that money is more important to them than human life?

I have to pay for my nurses aides. It's costly and unfair that the Insurance company doesn't pay for medical that is a direct result of my brutal fall - they don't follow NY state law and lie about my medical treatment?

It's amoral, unfair, unethical, and, as a direct result of their actions continues to cause me a deal of pain and suffering in every area of my life!

loss of income, loss of social life, dancing, loss of the ability to drive or travel to my sons and 50th school reunion, loss of educational scholarship due to lost ability to focus, all due to trauma of fall and triggering of PTSD.

Thank You for your healing therapy Im grateful.

With Gratitude,  
With Gratitude,  
Margaret Brooks  
203-461-4879

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Hello,

Today I would like to tell you how workers compensation board has effected my life...

I will try to keep it brief...

- 2019, May 9th (6 years) ago today's date exactly, to the day.

I was injured at work. I fell and broke my tailbone beyond repair...I just finally had my 3rd last shoulder surgery...12/2023

Which segways me to my topic today that I would like to answer for you...

If you would like a full report on this,... I give my lawyer permission to provide my WCN.

It started when I had my 2nd surgery attempt, and I went through the recovery process and saw the Required, IME Dr. ...Who Quickly Agreed With My Orthopedic Surgeon That The Surgery Needed To Be Done (AGAIN) Stating to me, It Still Was Not Right...He said.

I Was Placed In A 1 Year Unnecessary Hold From Recovery... Even though YOU'RE GUY,... that you hired to confirmif my injury Said That I Need Surgery... But No One Cared.. I Waited And Suffered... Loss of Income, 'Life-Activities'...Etc. For What? A Decision That You And I Both Know Had To Happen Eventually...

-I don't believe that it was personal or intentional...

Approximately a year and 3 months passed and the surgery was agreed on for a date... Unfortunately I had about a month or two of bad health... One was covid and the other was pancreatitis...

For Both, I needed to be cleared but only by my GI Dr before before my final surgery could take place...

My condition with the pancreas...

-Its kind if serious, but that's a story for another day...

Anyway, After the Scheduled day for me to finally meet the IME Dr again came...

I was still very in need of treatment due to soreness...and a low range of flexibility.

I had my WC Hearing and my Surgery was recognized... and I was finally able to collect my normal income of \$1,400.<sup>00</sup> & some change... My Pay Was Reduced Without Good Cause For Every Surgery...

Except This Last One. I was making only 950.<sup>00</sup> a month for the longest time...Which was my pay reduction from the \$1,400. When The Money Should Have NEVER been reduced in the first place...Since I'm Still 100% Disabled!

I was NEVER ABLE TO START back to work because of the Existing Injuries That I Still Have. MY Pay Was Then Held over my head Almost Like Ransome, at this needless hearing where I was advised...To Do A JOB SEARCH...and to turn in a worksheet in by email or fax once a week ... before the next court hearing...

-well I had the idiopathic stress induced, Acute pancreatitis and Covid ...

I didn't know my own name for about 2 weeks...and somehow I was required to job search. I explained to his honor that I apologize for my tardiness on the the last paperwork to be turned in by 'this time court date'... I was able to manage to send the email to my attorney ...the Sunday night before... this hearing.

At the time if this hearing, my attorney was remote in his office and did have access to the file on the email to be presented but his honor wouldn't accept it.

I did explain that I still did the work I was ordered...thus being sick and ill health.

Instead I was punished and told I was loosing my ENTIRE PAY for the month of October<sup>23</sup> and I was to be re-evaluated at the next hearing rescheduled in November<sup>23</sup>...

-That basically almost had me evicted from my residence due to owing back rent as it is...

I couldn't even pay what I promised...which made me a bad person for my word in my debtors eyes...

I was ordered to find work preferably before the next hearing...

I then had NO income to rely in and was forced to take a job EVEN THOUGH HIS HONOR was FULLY AWARE of the Recommendations by BOTH orthopedic surgeons IME and My Surgeon for the past (6) years, Dr. Howard Baum,

-who by the way...

was recommended to me by Chubb, my insurance carrier for WC.

I had been FORCED to Work While Injured and put my safety and wellbeing at risk as well as placed my new found job in a huge liability risk...which is the reason I had such a difficult time to find work... There is a huge difference between being disabled and Injured... yes.. but I Am Both... on (SSD) 'Social Security Disability' BECAUSE... My shoulder is NOT My Only Injury...And It is being overlooked that my tailbone is still mangled and beyond pain control... adding to the suffering of my disabled.

Please See Attachment.

Moreover, it should be noted that because I'm on 100% SSD I am not to try to go to work unless I am possibly 80% ready...But 100% able to try safely without pain or at least limited duty...due to my limited body functioning.

I was forced onto work only to loose a good job because I had to leave for my 3rd surgery that was FINALLY APPROVED but couldn't be scheduled until December<sup>23</sup>.

I worked from basically Thanksgiving Until After Christmas... 4 weeks approximately...

-What a horrible gift...'while in pain'...

I just would like to know one thing...

Can you please explain where in the LAW that it says that a Workers Compensation Judge Has The Authority To knowingly, Wantonly and Willingly be able to Force an Injured Worker BACK into harm to find work, because they took my pay, and christmas was coming and now my children had to do without...EVEN THOUGH HIS HONOR KNEW...

I was in need of and PENDING SURGERY. That did Ultimately Wind Up Occurring Shortly Thereafter I Began My New Job.

This recklessness and uncaring behavior of this judges decision to put my life at risk of permanent injuries and possibly new ones...

-just because his honor can,...

Then this is not a legal system that cares about the welfare of the victims of injury in the workplace in the state of New York....

-If this nonsense is aloud to continue.

I had to fear for my life every day I had to cross the airport highway to get to work because we had to find affordable parking on the street, about a ¾mile walk to and from work.

-WALKING and Crossing Large Intersections Like This On Foot is very difficult and painful and Dangerous to do at night and the daylight hours...

-Especially Due To My Injured Coccyx

It should also be noted that His Honor has access to the pain medication that was prescribed by my Dr. For pain is medical marijuana. My body has a hard time with pain pills by mouth. It makes me vomit...but that's because of a stomach condition I have... no tolerance to being able to take pain pills by mouth..or by P/O as my medical record profile indicates.

Obviously I cant drive on it so I had to suffer on pain at 100% due to being forced to stand walk and sit for long periods of time. All things I'm Told by my Dr. NOT TO DO!

...but my Dr is just someone who has been doing surgery for my condition practicing at about 40 years now, and he knows (I'm sure) that the Dr order is better then his honorable order on what is correct treatment for my Drs patient...(me)

We can start with the fact that I can correctly assume His Honor has Not Graduated from any type of medical school... because if his honor did... He should go back and do it again...because apparently (nothing was learned.)

My Life and Wellbeing Was Put In Harms Way and At Risk, by the lack of concern of a Judge who "APPARENTLY" was following some Law that supposedly allows this to happen to a victim of injury...

-Being Forced Back While Injured, Pending Surgery! and Knowledge of What Medication I Was Required to take To Avoid Pain...side effects mainly are confusion that last throught the day until the effects wear off.

Thw Side Effects Could Cause: -Confusion, loss of direction and concentration.

I was in no condition in the eyes of health; my doctor, and the eyes if Social Security to be attempting work.

-I only lost my job because the separation is too long because the length of recovery time...

I did my job well... even in EXCRUCIATING pain throughout the day...and this unfortunately is another bridge burned for me at a job should I ever need a job or be able to work one...All Thanks to Forced Labor By Order.

and honestly I think 40% is the best I'm going to get corrected on my injury.

I'd like to know where in the law it says this is correct to do and if you can show me this is true...

IT NEEDS TO BE REVISED AND CHANGED, BECAUSE IT IS INHUMANE to do this to people... and if it does not allow this in the law...

-We have a BIG PROBLEM to resolve...

Thank You for taking to time to hear my statement on how workers compensation has effected my life...(poorly)

Regretfully,

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I am writing to you to convey my disappointment and frustration with the Workers Compensation system.

Until the time of my accident, almost four years ago, I proudly had a perfect record of employment with my employer in that I was never once late, had no sick days and consistently exceeded my given sales budgets. Added to this was my numerous customer service awards.

Since the time of my workplace accident, of which the insurance carrier has never disputed the legitimacy of, I have been stymied at every point of the Workers Compensation process.

Throughout the past, almost four years, the insurance carrier has consistently denied all forms of basic treatment comprising of chiropractic, acupuncture and physiotherapy.

Due to not having these basic treatments my health has spiraled downwards requiring surgeries which then were undertaken by private insurance and medications obtained by same. My mental health has also been affected due to the sheer frustration of the workings of an obviously failed system.

I am embarrassed to admit to anyone other than close family that I am on worker's compensation as I've always prided myself on working hard and paying my own way in life.

I do not wish to burden the system and believe that if the insurance carrier had conducted my claim in a manner which is truly in the spirit of the Workers Compensation Act then I would have had the necessary treatment and surgery, to then heal in a reasonably timely fashion and enable me to return to work, saving the system much money plus restoring my own self esteem.

I wish at this time to remain anonymous.

Sincerely yours.

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To Whom it May Concern,

I have had the misfortune for being in the Workman's Comp system for over four years. It is very hard to get through with the healing process when you are dealing with a system that is so

broken itself. I have a few issues that have been difficult to go through but I have been fortunate to have some caring healthcare professionals that have helped me through it.

The first thing that I feel needs to change is the compensation payments should not be allowed to be 25 days behind before it is considered late. Is a paycheck allowed to be 25 days late? How could this even exist?

I have had the issues with getting Vestibular Therapy and just as it is starting to make a difference it is denied for more sessions. So if treatment is granted it should be able to go for enough time to be beneficial.

IME doctors that just falsely rate a patient that they only see for 5 to 10 minutes. Perhaps the IME doctors can really be true to their code of ethic for which they became a doctor. Waiting and antictipating if these doctors will reduce your treatments.

These are just a few issues. Please help out to make the people who need treatment not get more hurt in trying to heal in this broken system.

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,

Tammie Hughes

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To whom it may concern,

I am not sure where to begin. It has been a very long and arduous process dealing with workers compensation. I am writing this as I have mostly dealt with the difficult and almost full time job with all of the red tape and loopholes they put the injured worker through. My husband Chris Lyons was hurt at work in August of 2017 and it has been 7 years of multiple surgeries and dealing with them , the constant battles to get paid , terrible IME doctors, long, long waits for the IME's. IME's being scheduled an hour from your home, multiple court dates. I can go on and on. The workers comp board is supposed to be there for the injured worker but it feels very much the opposite. They need to revamp this system, it is hindering injured workers to heal. Which is supposed to be the priority. The faster they heal the faster they can return to their jobs if they are able to.It causes undue stress, confusion,paranoia, and the paperwork etc. that just never stops. My husband would have had a difficult time if I didn't take over doing appointments, following up with approvals, making sure every t was crossed.

One IME appointment we went to which stands out the most, was in Ronkonkoma, the dr took him and I in and he had my husband stand there and all he did was push his shoulders very abruptly, and that was it, all of 2 minutes in the room and we left so confused. This after his 5th or 6th surgery. We of course checked as soon as the dr. notes came up he was deemed 100% able to return to work according to the 5 pages of exam stuff this IME dr. said he did. All lies, it was comical to be honest. I immediately called our lawyer and made a complaint, he was given another IME. Now if I wasn't on the ball with this and this is someone who is unable to take care of it, would have lost their money to a lying corrupt dr. I am not sure how to fix this system. I don't even like to say system but at this point once you are in a workers comp case as a seriously injured worker, this is how you feel. A basic number, lost. I feel we need to give an advocate to workers to navigate this process somehow. Someone not on either side, that can be neutral. Help with the paperwork, timelines, court dates, IME's all of the stuff that comes along with it. It is very stressful to the worker, their families

and anyone else involved. The priority here should be healing, not worrying about fighting workers comp and the insurance companies for money to survive.

If you would like to hear more of my experience with workers comp I would be happy to talk to anyone. Please feel free to contact me.

We appreciate your consideration for advocating for injured workers.

Thank you,  
Andrea Lyons

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Good day everyone,

I would like to thank you all for the opportunity to share my experiences as an injured worker. I never imagined being able to be a part of this platform.

I must say, the WC system is not in favor of the injured worker at all. From nerve-racking IME appointments at sometimes very inconvenient locations and scheduled times to long wait times to see some of the IME doctors, from certain medications and treatments not being covered by WC; that's just a snippet of the overwhelming challenges injured workers face.

I personally have many stories to share. For instance, I was trying to reinstate my psychotherapy sessions with my provider and was told that WC owed their office over \$5000 in bills so I was not able to receive an appointment. I had to switch providers and go through an entire intake process all over again.

There are times when my lost wages check didn't arrive and at that point I was not aware direct deposit was available. This one time in particular, I was told by the insurance carrier that I had to wait until they could put a stop order on the check (they had to verify if it was cashed out or not first) then I was told I had to wait eight weeks!!!! Yes 8 weeks before they can reissue another check to me. Can you imagine my anxiety?! I became so sick, feeling worse than ever. It was absurd. How could I tell my children I have to wait eight weeks- two months to provide for them their meals and necessities?! Did the carrier care at all?! I don't think so. I truly try not to take it personally but how could I not? It affected me greatly.

I have issues with my spine, and I'm waiting 3 to 4 hours to see an IME doctor. I can't sit for too long and when I have to get up, it's very difficult, painful and I go off balance and I'm at high risk for falls.

Talking about these things is very emotional for me, yet extremely important to share. I wouldn't wish this on anyone, however one could never truly understand unless they experience it themselves. Through it all I try to maintain my faith that things will get better for us all.

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mayo 10 2024

estas palabras son para workers compensation board  
creo wcb no esta siendo justa con las personas lastimadas , carece de autoridad moral .  
Favorece a las corporaciones o patronos empresariales .

En mi situación o caso , los patronos donde ocurrió esta desgracia creo que nunca fueron sancionados o castigados .  
por los danos que me causaron , ademas que son irreversibles y permanentes todos estos danos que me fueron causados en este lugar de trabajo .

WCB no tiene todos los especialistas que se requieren o son muy difíciles de conseguir , y estoy hablando

de mi situación , muchos de los doctores que aparecen en la lista de la pagina de WCB no aceptan el seguro

de WCB es un inconveniente muy comun

los tratamientos y medicamentos tardan mucho tiempo para ser aprobados o negados por el seguro , Creo que todo esto es injusto e inhumano para nosotros las personas lastimadas , que ahora tenemos que vivir con todos estos inconvenientes para el resto de nuestras vidas , no es justo que se nos trate de esta manera !!!

LOS DIAGNOSTICOS MEDICOS para ver el porcentaje de disability requeridos por la corte a mis doctores fue

de 75% 85% 100% , y la juez decide dar 50%-50% , no croe que fue justa esa decisión , mi abogada le dice a la

juez que va hacer la apelación en una instancia mas alta y en ese momento me dice que vamos hablar este asunto

en su oficina , pero cuando fui a la oficina de la abogada me dice que no puede hacer la apelación , Claro esta que

mi abogada me dejo en un estado INDEFENSO . y decido realizar yo mismo la apelación , claro esta que la

apelación fue negada , la corte de workers compensation no tuvo la consideración de esta apelación que la realizo

una persona que carece de conocimientos de leyes de USA , y no tuvo el tiempo para investigar las razones porque

esta persona realizo esta apelación teniendo un abogado !!!

Por todas estas situaciones difíciles que tengo que vivir para el resto de mi vida yo creo que workers compensation es injusto .

Por todo esto que estoy viviendo no se si workers compensation es : un circo , una mentira o simplemente una desgracia .

atte

a. - - - - -

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To whom ever it may concern;

I started work at Call-A-Head in June 2023. My work at Call-A-Head consists of driving a sizable pump truck to assigned locations on a daily roster for the purpose of sanitizing portable bathrooms from the early hours of 3 am till late afternoon, around 3-4 pm. Just three months into working at Call-A-Head , on the fateful morning September 20, 2023; en route to my first stop of the day in long island. I was on the 495 Highway eastbound, on the right most lane going 50 miles per hour. Out of nowhere the rear right two wheels came off completely and I lost control of the truck. The truck immediately veered to the left into on coming traffic. My first reaction was to quickly steer the wheel to the right to avoid any collisions. I did indeed avoid collisions with vehicles but instead collided with the concrete jersey barrier on the farthest right portion on the highway.

During my brief time operating the same truck, I encountered various challenges, including instances where the engine shut down while in transit on a Long Island road, issues with engine overheating, and recurrent flat tires. Call-A-Head employs auto mechanics tasked with maintaining these trucks in operational condition. Nonetheless, on the morning of September 20, 2023, the unforeseen detachment of the wheels precipitated an accident that left me injured — sustaining injuries to both my shoulders, lower back, and upper spinal region around my neck.

The response to my near death experience from the boss over at Call-A-Head post-accident was lackluster, with the primary concern revolving around the damage to the truck rather than my well-being.

Since the accident I haven't been able to go back to work. I suffered a high level tear on my right shoulder which resulted in a surgery on January, 18 2024; a low level tear on my left shoulder, problems on my lower back region and around my neck region. Apart from my physical suffering I've been suffering mentally. Through my lawyers I've been able to go to physical therapy and regular therapy.

Since the accident, I've been in a vulnerable position in where I can't work. So to "compensate" for that, workers comp decided to pay me around \$850-\$860 every 2 weeks.

They came to this number based on my average weekly pay of when I was working of around \$1200 a week. Although I couldn't work because of my injuries along with documentation from the doctors I was seeing, stating I couldn't work. Workers comp still decided to offer me a very low percentage of compensation; to add insult to injury, these checks of \$850-\$860 would come in the mail every 3 weeks; almost every month contradicting their every 2 week promise. This compensation does not come close to covering my monthly rent of \$1300 and countless other monthly bills I have. I have bought this issue to the attention of my lawyers multiple times with no avail, just a "that's what the judge ruled, there's nothing we can do about it". Regardless of the doctor's professional opinions and my inability to work.

Workers comp finally increased my compensation pay to \$1729.36 every two weeks, which gave me some sense of security although the checks were still delayed to every 3 weeks; almost every month.

In between the time of the accident and my shoulder surgery, I've been going to Therapy to aid in my trauma from the accident itself as well as the emotional distress of the whole ordeal of dealing with workers comp. Since the accident I haven't been able to operate a motor vehicle the same as before. When I have attempted to get behind the wheel of a car, I've been overwhelmed with racing thoughts, increased heart rate, shaky and clammy hands and fearful. Since the accident and workers comp, I've become very distrustful with people, I've been experiencing strong feelings of hopelessness and a deep depression. Physically and mentally, life has not been the same for me.

Eleven days after my shoulder surgery, on January, 29 2024, I had to see an IME doctor/psychologist from workers comp to evaluate my emotional distress. This psych evaluation report by Dr. Rimma Danov was blasphemous, unprofessional and untrue. There were many things that stuck out to me regarding my psychological evaluation. It is obvious to me, following review of the report that various events which occurred throughout my life have been magnified, while the precipitating event of the accident with Call-A-Head, and my symptoms following this event have been minimized. The magnified events include the passing of my father, a potential robbery, and the global pandemic.

In the report, it is stated: "He reported a traumatic experience a few years ago when he was followed by a car at 3am or 4am." I specifically told her it was a motorbike, not a car. She also stated my difficulties with trust stemmed from the potential robbery I encountered; I stated explicitly this disposition stems from the accident and the negligent mechanics responsible for ensuring the work vehicle is safe to drive.

The passing away of a father would cause anyone a significant amount of distress and grief. The way the event of my father's passing was recorded in the report placed unnecessary focus on my grief and the natural symptoms of grief which is irrelevant to the accident. More so, it is stated: "...he evidently displayed the most pronounced emotional reaction when describing this loss" (the loss of my dad). This statement on Dr. D's part was overly dramatized and untrue pertaining to my emotional reaction while speaking about my father's death. I was not in tears or close to tears, I only slowed down my speech. It is not clear to me as to why this would be exaggerated into a lie but I have no reason to minimize my own experience of the grief of my father.

She asked me if I had sleep disturbances to which I replied "yes, I have nightmares about myself dying and other's around me dying, and I am watching myself die". I specified in the interview, the nightmares of me dying began FOLLOWING the accident. She then asked a follow up question "Have you ever had nightmares before this" to which I replied "Yes, but not like that [nightmares of me dying/being killed]". Dr. Danov then asked "What were the nightmares about" to which I replied "Before the accident?.. I had nightmares about my father due to his death". She then asked "Do you still have nightmares about your dad?" To which I replied "No". This important context has been omitted in the report where Dr. Danov wrote: "... the loss of his father certainly contributed to his emotional presentation, as it is still causing a significantly depressed affect with sleep disturbances". To reiterate, when I was asked about the nightmares about my dad, I specifically stated, they CEASED PRIOR to the accident, long before my role at Call-A-Head. It is obvious that the symptoms of my grief are being used to dilute the seriousness of my emotional/physical/mental distress caused by this accident. Also, I stated clearly in the interview that my current nightmares are of my own death and others dying around me which began IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING the accident. She is wrongly attributing my psychological state to the passing of my father.

It's also concerning to me that it was stated in the report that my sleep disturbances are due to my father's passing. This is false. To coincide with this, Dr. Danov asked me if I have trouble sleeping, to which I told her "Yes, I will stay up almost every night thinking about the accident and all the proceedings". This was also omitted from the report.

In the report it states "Mr. Villa was endorsing symptoms of depressed and anxious mood when speaking to his psychologist [Dr. Faulkner] in 2023, he was likely endorsing a cumulative effect of the injury and loss of his father". This is absurd to me because I have never mentioned anything about my father's passing to Dr. Faulkner because that is not why I sought her care. I sought her care specifically due to the anxiety and depression the accident has caused me.

I mentioned I wouldn't shower often due to the depression which came on due to the accident and all the stress that came from this. That was never mentioned in the report.

In the report, Dr. Danov described my anxiety and nervousness being due to my surgery, recovery and income, and difficulty relaxing when in pain. This is true but I am also confused as to why the fact that all anxiety stated stemmed from the accident has been omitted. Furthermore, it was stated that I denied experiencing additional symptoms of anxiety to that, I explicitly told her "I have borderline panic attacks whenever I attempt to start or drive my car since the accident". This was never mentioned in the report.

In the report it states "...prior psychological symptoms of depression and anxiety (along with sleep disturbance, overeating, weight issues) due to the pandemic and prolonged unemployment". I am very confused as it pertains to why my psychological symptoms of depression and anxiety are being attributed to the pandemic and prolonged unemployment when those are not issues I am currently facing. The issues I AM in fact currently facing include the accident, the surgery and proceedings which I have explicitly stated numerous times throughout the interview as a major source of distress for me today.

To use the death of someone's parent as a way to minimize their trauma; as if one cannot experience grief before another traumatic event is disrespectful, unrelated and unprofessional.

I also have an audio recording of the whole evaluation interview and a copy of the evaluation report to further back up my grievances on this matter.

Following my surgery, I spent about a month and a half not going to physical therapy, per surgeon doctor's request. Mid to almost end of February I started up physical therapy again for another 6 weeks that were approved by workers comp. By the end of the six weeks I had to see the surgeon doctor and physical therapy doctor to evaluate my recovery. I told them I've regained more range of motion on my left shoulder with sustained minor pain; as for my right shoulder it was still very painful to move around; my lower back at this point was still in pain; the pain in my neck region at this point was minor as well. Both of these doctors requested for more physical therapy. The surgeon doctor had told me recovering from the surgery would take upwards of 6 months or more with more physical therapy and strength training. A week after this on April 9, 2024 I had an appointment with another IME doctor for the physical portion, at 12:30 pm. I got there at 12pm; I didn't end up seeing the doctor till 2:30 pm all while there was only one person ahead of me the whole time. My lower back was in pain while waiting those two and a half hours for the doctor. When I finally saw the doctor everything went well until the doctor was forcing my right arm and shoulder in different positioning. All while this was happening I was wincing in pain and telling the doctor it hurt. After all this he tells me "seems like your shoulder is ok". Although this doctor was very unprofessional he requested I go to more physical therapy. It is now May 10, 2024 and my physical therapy has yet to

be approved by workers comp; It was actually got denied even though multiple doctors requested more for me.

Along with denying me more physical therapy, workers comp has also cut my therapy sessions with my therapist from one day every week to one day every two weeks. As if that wasn't bad enough, they even cut my compensation pay back down to \$850-\$860 every two weeks.

Im still unable to work due to my pain and as for my mental health, it has declined severely and still is on the decline heavily exasperated by the continuous experience with workers comp. All I ask for is to be treated humanely and compensated fairly until I'm at least physically able to work.

The reverberations of this incident, both physical and mental, portend an enduring impact on the trajectory of my life.

Thank you for considering these matters with due attention.

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To whom it may concern,

Am writing this brief email to give details of my experience to date with regards to Worker's Compensation, the Worker's Compensation Doctor's.

From Sept. 2023 to April 2024 I've had follow up appointments every 2 months with Dr. Weingarten Pain Management. On Sept. 14, 2023 @ 5 p.m. 1<sup>st</sup> appointment Dr. Weingarten communicated to me that someone doesn't want to help me at Worker's Comp. In addition, to that he also said to me that there's really nothing going on with my lower back. I was in so much pain that day I didn't think anything of it. Dr. Weingarten prescribed ibuprofen for my neck, mid, and lower back pain, which I got no relief from. the doctor advised me that he would prescribe a stronger medication. And that I would have to obtain a Good RX card and pay for the pain medication myself. Which was stressed by Dr. Weingarten at every follow up appointment. Dr. Weingarten and I would go back and forth about why I should purchase the medication Tramadol myself! So. I called Express Script to find inquire about getting the prescription for the stronger pain medication authorized. Is when I learned that I should not have been taking ibuprofen from the Pharmacist at Express Scripts. That the ibuprofen and the Naproxen that was prescribed the my Neurologists Dr. Golzad for my Migraine headache's. That taking both can cause internal bleeding and bloating. Which explained the extreme bloating and upset stomach I was experiencing. On 12/4 or 12/5 I called Dr. Weingarten's office and left a message regarding the conversation I had with the Pharmacist's at EScripts. And that I am requesting something in writing stating the Tramadol 50 mg has not been authorized by Worker's Compensation. On 12/12/23 @ 10:00 a.m. I had a follow up appointment with Dr. Weingarten. While waiting I spoke to the receptionist about the voice message I left. I was told that the person who handles that is Lisa that she would come out to speak with me. Which she did come to speak with me in the waiting room. To let me know that the Tramadol 50 mg was authorized by Worker's Compensation, along with the printout of the authorization that was dated 12/05/23. Lisa also said to me that when the Dr. puts a prescription in. That I would have to call her Lisa to have her to put the prescription in. With that said, I asked Lisa where am I supposed to tell you to put the prescription, in my pocket? She looked at me like I had 2 heads,

at this point I was getting upset. I saw Dr. Weingarten I asked him why did he prescribed the ibuprofen? When on the last follow appointment on Nov. 23, 2023 @ 1:45 p.m. I showed you my notebook of all the prescriptions that I was taking at that time. Dr. Weingarten said to me that I made that choice to take the Ibuprofen. At this point I was very upset! Days later I got the prescription for Tramadol 50 mg. All said and done, I got no relief from the Tramadol. Which I let Dr. Weingarten know on my follow up appointment on Feb. 6, 2024 @ 10:30 a.m. Yet again, Dr. Weingarten said that I need to speak to someone at Worker's Compensation. To get authorization for the prescription Nucynta ER tabs mg. That he had told me to get a Good RX card and buy it myself. I said to the doctor I can't afford it I'm on a fixed income and that my Worker's Compensation Attorney's office told me they don't get involved when it comes to getting prescriptions authorized.

04/02/2024 @ 9:00 a.m. - My last follow up appointment with Pain Management Dr. Alexander E. Weingarten. I asked the doctor again about getting the Nucynta a stronger pain medication authorized. Where he is still insisting that I purchase the prescription myself. I said to Dr. Weingarten that no one should have to come out off pocket and pay for their medication. That I can not afford it, I am on a fixed income. So, at this time I called my Worker's Compensation Attorney's office spoke with the young lady Marilyn on speaker phone. Who confirmed That when she checked the system on her end. Where she found that the only time the prescription was entered for Tramadol was December 2023. I hung up on the call, and I asked the doctor why did you at every follow up appointments. Did you tell me you were entering the prescriptions for Express Scripts if that was not the case? Dr. Weingarten started yelling and saying that Worker's Comp. has paid out a lot of money for me. That I need to settle with Worker's Comp. and get off of Worker's Compensation! I got up put my hat and my coat on to leave at this point, I was