

Sign on...

I was sorry to hear Tom Cookman tell us he is giving up his Community Comments. Even though he pretty much pounded on the same general subjects, most of what he had to say was pertinent and to the point. I have known Tom and his mother and uncle Jimmy for many, many years and am wishing him the best in the future.//I have commented on the "Devil's Slide" several times, and the fact that it is a State Highways project, not a Federal one hasn't reached those who ask you to write Federal senators, etc., to push the rebuilding. They may be of some assistance, but Senator Boxer just cut me off with a "write your state representatives" letter.//I have been going round and round with the State Workman's Compensation department for several years over the treatment for a knee that was severely injured in 2000 and was very fragile and almost certain to require more attention at a later date. Well, that time came a while back, and when I got an infection in the knee caused by an abscess, I could get no-one to take care of it. We left the case open just for that reason, and the Workman's Comp closed it on their own. I don't know if this was the case when the accident happened, but now the State gives you a settlement and it is put into a special account, and when it's gone, Medicare takes it over. I finally got a doctor in

San Francisco to take me on, and I just hope and pray that the infection is gone, after a week in the hospital and a month of infusion with a strong antibiotic. Amputation of the leg was one option, and I don't want that to happen. In the meantime, I am wheelchair bound, and can only walk to transfer from the wheelchair to the recliner or into the car. No more driving, which is a major inconvenience, as I love to drive, and it took a load off my wife when I could do my share of the errands, etc.* I understand that there is a lot of misuse of Workman's Compensation, and they have to be sure that whoever is applying for it really needs or deserves it. I know, personally of some who worked the system, and it really burns me up to see it happen, but ~~then~~^{now} it is so tight that even a non-Workman's Comp carrier can't refer one to someone who is. One of the reasons so many doctors and other medical providers don't take Workman's Comp. is the low repayment schedule. I've talked to many providers who quit taking Workman's Comp for just that reason. Getting covered, especially in severe cases like mine, already requires a lot of paperwork and thorough investigation, and a lot of cases are hard to prove need.* As a person who was taught to be honest and responsible, it really frosts me that I have to suffer for the dishonesty of others. I will let you know how my San Francisco doctor's visit turns out.

STEN OFF...