## CHARLES HUGHSON

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I was injured at work in 2022. It was my first day on this job. I filed a claim for compensation benefits in May of 2022. My employer and their insurance company denied my claim, stating that I was not an employee of the company, despite the fact that I filled out employment paperwork on my first day and a co-worker witnessed me working.

After many hearings and delays, a Judge eventually established my case for injuries to both of my shoulders and my back. He awarded me benefits and directed the insurance company to pay my doctors' bills. The carrier appealed the decision.

It took until January of 2024 for the Board Panel to issue a decision which agreed with the Judge's ruling. From May of 2022 to January of 2024 I received no payment whatsoever for my lost wages. During that time, I was unable to get the treatment that I needed to recover from my injuries, including surgery, due to the insurance company denying all payments to my doctors.

I am just now starting to recover from the financial strain that this put me and my family under and just starting to get the treatment that I needed two years ago.

It is infuriating that my employer was allowed to do this to me, with no punishment, and that the process took this long.

Sincerely.

Charles Hughson

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