

Fax Cover

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Sheet

To: Mr. M.Baird
Fax#: (416) 344-4684
Subject: WCB Claim # [redacted]
Date: November 21, 1997
Pages: 4, including this cover sheet.

COMMENTS:

Please forward this fax and the attached letter to Mr. Baird who has been handling my claim with WCB. There is a total of four pages including this cover sheet, consisting of: cover sheet (1 page) and letter to Toronto Sun (3 pages).

I have sent a letter to the Toronto Sun to request their assistance in handling of my claim with WCB and to help me get clarification (and approval of my claim) on the response from you (Mr. Baird) and from (my M.P.P.) Mr. R. Sampson's office (Don) stating I would receive a cheque in a couple of days of Oct. 28/97.

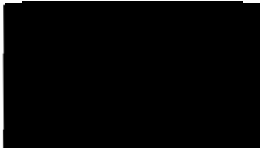
As I have stated before I have been placed into a very difficult financial situation and I am unable to allow any further delays from your office or from Mr. Sampson's office, because of a pending eviction (from a Co-operative housing, for which I personal sit on the Board of Directors) and also the legal action that will be taken against me for collections from creditors.

The next step I will be forced to take, will be to seek legal representation in this matter. I do not wish nor do I want to proceed in this fashion, but with the constant phone calls from creditors and collection agencies, I feel I have been left with no choices. Unless you have new and/or further information on my claim that would prove to be positive. If this is the case please contact me by phone as soon as possible (before my phone is cut off too!), so I may consider to suspend any new options that maybe available to me. If you can not reach me by phone then please fax me at the fax number below during the hours of :2:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Mondays, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Tuesday to Thursday, and 8:30 am to noon on Fridays.

If you didn't receive this fax in it's entirety call [redacted] and ask for Paul Taylor.

After faxing you this letter I will send you: The original of the cover sheet, and a copy of the letter sent to the Toronto Sun, BY REGULAR MAIL.

Paul Taylor



November 20, 1997

Toronto Sun
C/o Action Line
333 King Street E.
Toronto, Ont.

RE: WCB Claim

To whom it may concern,

I am writing you this letter to inform you of my circumstances with WCB and the continual refusal to respond to my requests for information on my claim.

I have been employed as a truck driver for Action Force Driver Service since March of 1995 in this time I was contracted to Canadian Tire Transportation, which was delivering products to their stores.

On January 28, 1997 I was injured in the work place by a bunch of bins falling on my back, neck, and back of head. The weight of the bins and items behind the bins was in excess of 300 lbs. At that time I was removed from work by my Doctor and sent to physiotherapy, on March 10/97 my Doctor and myself felt I was capable of returning to work. Then on March 17/97 I was removed from work again by my Doctor due to an increase in pain preventing me from working. I was again sent to physiotherapy and after treatment and time I returned to work on April 28/97.

I have since been removed from work by my Doctor on August 20, 1997 due to increased back pain that was preventing me from driving, my Doctor then sent me back to physiotherapy and I had seen him on a biweekly and monthly basis as well as attending physiotherapy every day.

Since August 20, 1997 I have not received any income what so ever to cover personal expenses and bills. In some cases I have lost services and I am presently in the process of being evicted from my residence as well as the inevitable possibility of legal action taken against me for collections from creditors. I also have as recently as of last week not been able to attend physiotherapy as requested by my Doctor due to no income to cover transportation expenses.

In the middle of October I contacted my M.P.P.'s (Mr. Rob Sampson) office to see if anyone there could assist me to get a response from WCB. I spoke with a gentleman by the name of Don he had said he would look into to this matter and get back to me. On this same day I received a phone call from a Mr. Schofield who was Mr. M. Baird's (The person assign to my claim) supervisor. He explained to me that he would talk to Mr. Baird first thing in the morning of the next day and he would have Mr. Baird call me that day. Mr. Baird called me the next day and asked me a few questions about my injury and the possibility of recurrence and would get back to me in a day or so. On November 3, 1997 I had received a letter from Don (person from M.P.P.'s office) saying I should receive a cheque from WCB in a couple of days (Letter attached). I then waited a couple of days to see if it would come in the mail.

On November 10, 1997 I called WCB asking the status of my claim and the where about of my cheque, the person at the inquiry desk said that my claim had not been processed yet and I should talk to Mr. Baird, I then left a message with Mr. Baird's voice mail stating I would be going down to his office to talk to him in person. I then on the same day talk to my M.P.P.'s office they were confused by me receiving a letter from their office stating I should be receiving a cheque, when the claim wasn't even processed yet.

On November 12, 1997 at 8:24 am, just before I was going to leave to go to WCB's office I received a message from Mr. Baird stating that my claim was disallowed and he sent a letter explaining this to me in the mail. I then proceeded to go to my M.P.P.'s office to show them the letter I had received from their office and explain to them that nobody should have to wait this long for a claim. Their response to this is I should apply for social assistance I then explained to them I felt social assistance is an easy way out for WCB. I then left and went to the WCB office in Toronto to see if I could get some straight answers and possibly convince Mr. Baird of my financial situation and injury. I arrived at the WCB office at noon and waited until 2:00 pm to see Mr. Baird when I seen Mr. Baird I explained to him my situation with my injury and showed him pictures of the bins that fell on my back, neck and back of head. He then explained to me that because I did not seek any medical attention while I was back to work he could not allow my claim to proceed, He further explained that he spoke to my employer and myself, He said he would ask the WCB Doctors to look at my Doctor's reopen report and would get back to me in a day or so I then left.

Since November 12, 1997 I have not heard from nor spoken to Mr. Baird and at the meeting with him he had not said he spoke to my Doctor nor did he speak with Monique Rivard who no longer works at Action Force, but I had spoken to on a almost daily basis about my injury while I was working in June and July, She also filed the original paper work for me in February of this year.

On November 19, 1997 I went and seen my Doctor and explained everything that took place and asked him if he had spoken to anyone from WCB in regards to my claim he said "NO". My Doctor reviewed all my file and the paper he has and explained that he does not understand why my claim for a recurrence was disallowed and was confused by what Mr. Baird had said in his letter.

I do not understand why:

1. It should take months to process a recurrence claim when the original claim was approved, even if they did not receive my Doctor's report until late September which I had faxed and mailed.
2. That a person can make a medical decision on an injury without even consulting with the attending physician to ask the appropriate questions as to whether or not a specialist is needed or being sought.
3. A person from my M.P.P.'s office would write me and inform me that I should be receiving a cheque in a couple of days.
4. WCB should be allowed to hold up a claim for recurrence for so long that it pushes a person into poverty and bankruptcy and an appeals process should take months instead of weeks or even days.

I believe that when a person is injured in the work place they should not have the fear of losing their income as well as all their personal possessions. The Workers Compensation Act was put into place to protect injured workers, but at this time I am getting the impression that the Act has been seriously breach by the Workers Compensation Board for failing to abide by the Act.

I have given the WCB more then ample time (3 months) to consider my claim for recurrence and acquire needed information. I believe I am now forced into the position of personal bankruptcy and seeking legal action against the WCB for failing to abide by the Act.

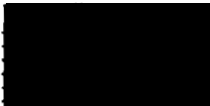
I would rather not proceed with legal recourse, but have been placed into a very difficult position. If you or someone from your office can remedy my problem with the WCB it would be greatly appreciated, as the costs for legal representation is very high and my financial situation prevents me from waiting any longer then really necessary.

I would greatly appreciate a verbal and written response if you are able to assist me as soon as possible at the number below.

If you require approval to discuss my claim please consider this letter my consent for you to discuss with WCB and my Doctor, if you need information from my Doctor in regards to my claim for recurrence with WCB you may do so at my Doctor's discretion.

Respectfully yours,

Paul Taylor

Paul Taylor


Ps Due to the postal strike if you need to send correspondence to me you may send it via fax to the fax number listed above between the hours of: 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Mondays, 8:30 am and 4:00 pm Tuesday to Thursday, and 8:30 am to 12:30 pm on Fridays.

Enclosures (3)

Cc: Mr. M. Baird
WCB
200 Front St. W.
Toronto, Ont.
M5V 3J1
Phone (416) 344-2657

Rob Sampson's Office M.P.P.
Central Park rd.
Mississauga, Ont.
Phone (905) 897-8815

Dr. R. Sauls
2300 Eglinton Ave. W.
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Mississauga, Ont.
Phone (905) 820-8144