

Testimony for Charlie Bell

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FWA for SB 431

Compensation for eligible workers who suffer long COVID

Asking to be amended to include eligible workers who also suffer from COVID vaccination

Dear Senators, My name is Charlie Bell. I am a 54 year old US Navy veteran and worked in a US Navy shipyard. I was vaccinated with the required Covid 19 vaccine on April 1, 2021 and with the second shot on April 30, 2021.

After the second shot, I got excruciating pain starting with my back and neck and a hardened stomach. I went to the ER in June 2021 and they referred me to a primary care doctor who did a lot of tests. That doctor did not tell me the results of the test and she seemed to me to be hiding something. When I later saw another doctor, he told me the tests showed inflammation in my neck and lower back. This all started after the second Covid shot.

We were all told that the lipid nanoparticles stayed at the injection site, but now we know that they travel all over the body. I began to think that this was happening to me and was the start of causing my pain. My legs started with internal vibrations and pins and needles sensations. I couldn't lift my legs to walk and had shooting pains down my arms.

I searched around for help and after two years found a doctor who seemed to understand what was happening to me. He diagnosed me with myositis, an autoimmune disorder of the muscles and also Anti-Jo1 which is an autoimmune connective tissue disorder. He also said due to the stress my body experienced there was a reemergence of Epstein Barr virus.

I asked the doctor if the vaccine caused my condition or was it from long Covid. The doctor confirmed that I was vaccine injured. He said that the testing showed a very high level of antibodies which were due to the Covid shots. He said that doesn't happen with long Covid. He said that my body was still making high levels of antibodies and these were causing an autoimmune response and my continuing inflammation.

I felt gaslighted by the primary care doctor who tried to hide the inflammation detected after the shots and who didn't provide early treatment to try and calm my immune system. I am disabled and barely treading water financially. I am on disability and medicaid. I couldn't apply to the CICP program because the year to apply had passed. And the average compensation has been only \$3,000 to \$4,000. They do not compensate for pain and suffering.

This has been a disaster. Our government forced us to get the shots and now they are ignoring the vaccine injured in the US. If my doctor wasn't paying for my prescriptions and visits, I wouldn't be here. Please don't abandon the Covid vaccine injured. Please amend the bill to include eligible workers who have been seriously injured by the Covid shots. Thank you.

Charlie Bell