

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

BEFORE ME this day personally appeared Kate Adamson, who, upon being duly cautioned and sworn, deposes and states:

1. My name is Kate Adamson and I am over the age of eighteen and a resident of the state of California.
2. In June, 1995, at the age of 33, I suffered a devastating double brain stem ponds stroke which left me totally paralyzed and unable to even blink.
3. In the beginning, I remember having an MRI done and being told to lie perfectly still, but my body was going into convulsions. I was medicated, hallucinating and could not speak. But I do remember wanting to somehow communicate that I needed to get home.
4. My doctors mistakenly thought I was in a vegetative like state. Accordingly, I underwent surgery to have a feeding tube inserted in my stomach. I was not given sufficient anesthesia and felt excruciating pain throughout the surgery.
5. At another point, my feeding tube was removed and I went without food for eight days. I thought I was going insane. Inside my body I was trying to scream out that I needed to eat but I could not communicate. The hunger pains overrode every thought I had. The pain was sheer torture.

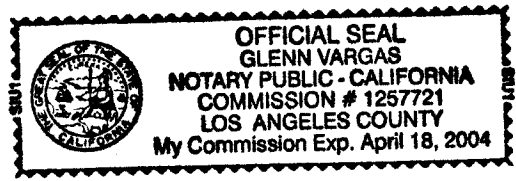
6. After my stroke, I suffered from locked in syndrome. I spent 70 days in the ICU. During those 50 days, I was conscious and could hear, see, and feel everything. I could feel pain, but was unable to move any part of my body. I was totally trapped in my body. I was fed by a tube surgically placed in my stomach, and breathed only by artificial means. I could not speak, could not eat, could not drink, and could not move. My body was trapped, unable to move and remained in a rigid death-like position. I could not scratch an itch and could not tell someone to scratch it for me. It was horrible. I experienced severe headaches and double vision and could not tell anyone. Because I could not handle my own secretions, I underwent extremely painful suction treatments every twenty minutes to extract fluid from my lungs. I could hear what people were saying to me but, in the beginning, no one knew if I understood because they did not know how much brain damage I had.
7. There was little hope for me to even live through the night. Doctors gave me less than a one in a million chance of surviving. Miraculously, I lived, and more than that, I overcame the locked-in syndrome.
8. I am presently able to use all parts of my body other than my left arm and my left leg below the knee, which remain paralyzed. I am one of the national spokespersons for the American Heart and Stroke Associations. I have written an award-winning book and am a keynote speaker and I work closely with other stroke survivors and their families.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

STATE OF CA
COUNTY OF Los Angeles

Kate Adamson
Kate Adamson
Kate Adamson

Sworn to and subscribed before me by Kate Adamson, who is personally known to me, this 11 day of December, 2003.



Glenn Vargas
Notary Public