

THURSDAY KEYNOTE

A Trooper's Victory Over Critical Injury

On March 27, 2015, Sergeant Robert Bemis, then a 22-year veteran of the Pennsylvania State Police, stopped to render assistance to a motorist whose vehicle was on fire. A passing vehicle approaching the scene lost control and struck the rear of the police vehicle, which was driven forward striking him. Sergeant Bemis received life-threatening and permanent injury.

His story provides an account of the circumstances leading up to a life changing accident; the emergency response; the long recovery and living with a spinal injury; the initial agency, peer and community support; and finally the highs and lows of returning to his role as a Trooper.

This story is intended to increase understanding and raise awareness to the unique difficulties faced by service members who survive catastrophic injuries received in the Line of Duty.



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3:45PM