



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 3, 2010

OFFICER INJURED BY DRUNK DRIVER TO THANK BLOOD DONORS

Larry Fredrick Completes 'Life Across America' 3,850 Mile Bike Ride in 52 Days!

(St. Petersburg, FL: 8/3/10) Larry Fredrick is rolling into Tampa Bay to thank Florida Blood Services(FBS) donors for saving lives. On Saturday, August 14, he will be at the St. Petersburg Donor Center for an 'open house' from 9 am until 11 am to share his story. In addition, FBS donors Bob Wise and Rodney Ford, who have received the Larry Fredrick Award from America's Blood Centers, will be present. The St. Petersburg Donor Center is located on the south side of the FBS campus at 10100 Dr. ML King St North, just north of Gandy Boulevard. The public is invited and all attendees can enjoy free coffee, donuts and gifts. In addition, a tour of the FBS Laboratories will be available at 10 am.

Larry served as a Marine in Vietnam and an Oakland police officer until severely injured. He continues to be a recovering avid cyclist and a tireless blood donation advocate. From June 5th through July 27th, 2010 he made his fourth cross-country bike ride to help a cause near and dear to his heart: volunteer blood donation. <http://www.lifeacrossamerica.com> Larry was the recipient of an enormous amount of blood — 110 units, or roughly nine times his normal blood volume. Years ago while on duty as a police officer, a DUI driver going 65 miles per hour struck Larry as he was telling another driver not to step out of his vehicle onto the freeway. By ambulance, he arrived at the ER with a severed femoral artery, major blood loss and fifteen separate injuries. Larry had "bled out" and stopped breathing and was not expected to live. But he did. And one of the reasons Larry professes to be alive today is because 110 people he had never met had taken the time to donate one pint of blood each. Larry has a short video of his story posted at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIT15at72KI>

Founded in 1962, America's Blood Centers is North America's largest network of non-profit, community blood centers. Every year member blood centers collect nearly 10 million pints of whole blood, providing nearly 50 percent of the country's donor blood supply, and over 10 million units of blood components including red blood cells, platelets, and plasma.

Headquartered in St. Petersburg Florida, FBS provides over 350,000 blood donations to patients at 92 hospitals and other ambulatory healthcare facilities throughout 42 Florida, Georgia, and Alabama counties, through the participation of volunteer donors.

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Larry in the hospital after being hit by drunken driver.



Larry and his daughter Adella Fredrick take a break on their 3,847 mile bike ride from San Francisco, CA to Portsmouth, NH this 2010 summer to promote blood donations!

