

## Rick Davidson, Ventilator Dependant Quadriplegic for 17 Years, Begins Coast to Coast Motorcycle Trip for Spinal Cord Injury Awareness and Research on June 3, 2005

Rick Davidson to travel from New York, NY to Burbank, CA on a specially constructed trailer, towed behind a 2003 Anniversary Edition Harley Davidson Electra Glide, to promote Spinal Cord Injury Awareness and Research with emphasis on three bills to assist the disabled population.

Olathe, KS (<u>PRWEB</u>) June 1, 2005 -- When Christopher Reeve passed away, it left a huge hole in the heart of advocacy for the Spinal Cord Injury community and the disabled population in general. Rick Davidson wants to  $\hat{A} \Box$  step up $\hat{A} \Box$  to the plate and bring the disabled population $\hat{A} \Box$ s needs and concerns back to light. In order to do this, he has orchestrated a Coast to Coast Motorcycle Trip to begin June 3.

Davidson, injured in a motorcycle accident at the age of 21, has lived at home for the last 17 years with home health care nursing. Due to recent changes in his family, he has to look at other options available. To his dismay, he found the system to be lacking in services available for the disabled to remain in their home and active in their community. After much research, Davidson decided to spotlight three bills currently under consideration during a Coast to Coast Motorcycle Trip for Spinal Cord Injury.

The  $\hat{A} \square$  Money Follows the Person $\hat{A} \square$ , the  $\hat{A} \square$  Christopher Reeve Paralysis Act $\hat{A} \square$  and the  $\hat{A} \square$  MiCASSA $\hat{A} \square$  bills, which are all under consideration in both the House and Senate currently, are what Mr. Davidson wants to promote during his trip. The bills will allow disabled individuals the opportunity to remain in their homes instead of being institutionalized, along with allowing more research to help people with brain and spinal cord disorders and disabilities. The bills do not deal with cloning or stem cell research.

Davidson and group will begin their trip June 3 at 10 AM from DillonÂ $\square$ s on Santa Fe in Olathe, KS. They have been graciously been approved to begin the official trip at Orange County Choppers in New York. They have a meeting scheduled at the White House 10 AM on June 7, along with meeting with various Governors along the route. The trip will end in Burbank, CA at the Tonight Show with Jay Leno on June 14. From there, they will then begin the trek back home to Olathe, KS.

The Coast to Coast Trip has be made possible by generous donations from Invacare Corporation, Carestaf Medical Staffing, Aspen Seating, Cherub Medical Supply, Harrison s Machine and Welding, Classic Customs, Alter Ego Cycles, Central Harley Davidson, and many others, with donations still being obtained.

For additional information on the news that is the subject of this release or to schedule an interview, please contact Michelle Bradley or visit <a href="https://www.rickdavidson.org">www.rickdavidson.org</a>.

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