

## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Personal stories telling about lives saved, lost shared in annual safety blog series

Parents, relatives and emergency responders across Kansas are sharing stories about lives saved, lost or affected forever due to a traffic crash during the annual Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day safety blog series.

In today's blog [here](#), **Benton Police Chief Braden Moore** got a call that his son had been in a crash. When he got to the scene, he saw his son standing in the ditch. He and his friend wore their seat belts and were OK, just scared and shaken.

"The thought - I nearly lost my son today - ran through my mind as I sat on running boards of my patrol truck, my head in my hands, tears of thankfulness running from my eyes," Moore said.

**Kansas Highway Patrol Lt. Tanner Blakesley** was standing on the side of the highway when he was hit by his patrol vehicle, which was struck by a passing vehicle going highway speed.

"The next thing I remember is waking up in the ditch. I was able to put the parts of my broken memory together after seeing the video from my patrol car cameras," Blakesley said. "There's nothing like seeing video of yourself launched off your vehicle's windshield into the air."

**Liberal Deputy Chief Chris Head** was first on the scene of a rollover crash in Oklahoma. The driver was not wearing a seat belt and died from the injuries. He also found out the driver just had a baby girl. Years later, Head went back to that town and saw a prom photo of the grown-up girl.

"I couldn't help but think about her dad, and how proud he would have been of his little girl. There was absolutely a void in those photos where he should have been," Head said.

These and other traffic-related experiences are being told in 14 different blogs that begin today and run through Oct. 10, the official day for Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day national safety campaign. Whether you are in a vehicle, on a motorcycle or even walking, the campaign's goal is for you to arrive safely every time.

To read safety blogs each day, go to [Kansas Transportation: Put the Brakes on Fatalities 2022](#).

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