



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **2015 CONNECTICUT SPINAL CORD INJURY GALA TO BE HELD MARCH 7, 2015: TENNESSEE REPRESENTATIVE DARREN JERNIGAN IS FEATURED SPEAKER FOXCT'S TIM LAMMERS TO HOST**

**(For Immediate Release)**

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The Connecticut Chapter of the National Spinal Cord Injury Association (NSCIA CT) is pleased to announce that its 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Twilight Gala will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2015 at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, Connecticut, from 6:30 p.m. until midnight.

The featured speaker will be Representative Darren Jernigan. While in college, Darren was injured in an automobile accident, leaving him paralyzed from the chest down. After two years of intensive rehabilitation, he was able to return to school. After graduation, Darren worked at the U.S. Department of State and Congress in Washington, DC. He returned to Tennessee to earn a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice and after serving on the Metro Nashville City Council, he was elected to the Tennessee State House of Representatives in 2012 and again in 2014.

NSCIA CT's Twilight Gala will be hosted by Tim Lammers, FoxCT Morning News Anchor. As a health reporter, Tim was nominated for a story about his challenge to find a treatment for Avascular Necrosis, a rare degenerative bone disease, which culminated in his receiving a cutting-edge stem cell transplant using his own bone marrow.

Sponsorships and tickets for the Gala may be purchased by going to [www.sciact.org](http://www.sciact.org). The formal affair features live and silent auctions, raffles, dinner and dancing.

NSCIA CT is a tax exempt, nonprofit corporation, operated exclusively by volunteers committed to helping individuals with spine-related injuries or diseases and their families. It advocates for the rights of, and provides resources and information to, the spinal cord injury community in Connecticut. It also offers activities and events designed to empower spinal cord patients to lead more independent lives. One hundred percent of the proceeds from the Gala go to the organization's programs and services here in Connecticut, including grants for assistive equipment and home modifications.

For more information about NSCIA CT, visit [www.sciact.org](http://www.sciact.org) or call (203) 284-2910.