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## Wilson County Alcoholic Beverage Control Board



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Wilson County, N.C. – March 21, 2016: Peggy, Nick, and Josh Bennett visited five schools over the course of two days last week in Wilson County; talking to over 1,500 Juniors and Seniors before the spring break and prom season. Presentations were held at Beddingfield, Fike, Hunt, Wilson Early College Academy, and Greenfield School. The Bennett's were bringing their message of making good decisions and not drinking underage – a topic they know all too well.

Josh, at the age of eighteen, got behind the wheel of a car after a night of underage drinking and drove off. He hit a bridge abutment at seventy miles per hour. It was later learned that his blood alcohol level was 0.22; almost three times the legal limit. Josh has a traumatic brain injury and spent five months in a coma. However, his story does not end there.

Josh's father Nick quit his job and became Josh's full-time caregiver. It has now been fifteen years since Josh's accident and, with the help and support of his family, he has made much progress – and he has worked hard to get where he is now. Josh Bennett and his family now do presentations for schools, colleges, and groups to tell young people about the consequences of bad decisions and underage drinking. As Josh tells people, "he doesn't want to save one life, .......he wants to save them all."

Underage drinking is a big problem in North Carolina, and it's happening right here in Wilson County. The Wilson County ABC Board in partnership with Talk It Out NC invited the Bennett's to come to Wilson County to share Josh's story.

For more information visit the Talk It Out Website at <u>talkitoutnc.org</u>, or the Wilson County ABC Board website at <u>wilson.abc.nc.gov</u>.







"Providing 81 years of Control, Service and Revenue in Wilson County"