

# LEVEL II TRAUMA CENTER



**Shawki Saad, MD,** gives a warm greeting to **Leonardo Lopez** 10 months after he was treated in our Level II Trauma Center for sustaining multiple gunshot wounds while driving.

## Trauma Team Activated Prior to Leonardo's Arrival

Trauma Surgeon  
Emergency Medicine Physician  
Anesthesiologist  
Emergency Department Nurses  
Surgical Nurse  
Respiratory Therapy  
Blood Bank

## True TV Trauma News Update

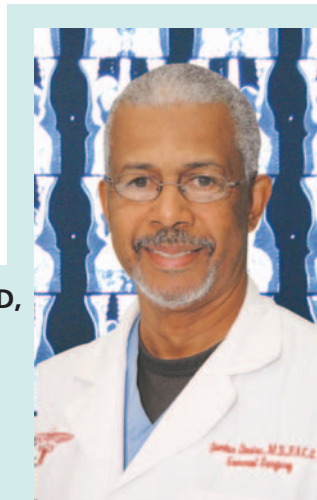
The call to activate the Trauma Team came in just before 3 a.m. Restaurant Owner **Leonardo Lopez** was driving home when an assailant demanded money on a 101 Freeway off-ramp. Leonardo refused and was shot several times. Bleeding and losing consciousness, he drove away, crashed into a streetlight pole and landed on the grass in Encino Park. "Two homeless women called 911 and said, 'A drunk had crashed,'" he recalls.

Paramedics rushed him to Northridge Hospital Medical Center—one of only two trauma centers in the San Fernando Valley equipped to treat severe life-threatening injuries.

Leonardo arrived at the **Level II Trauma Center** at 3:13 a.m. where our elite Trauma Team was assembled to provide treatment within his most crucial hour known as the Golden Hour—known as the first critical hour that can affect a patient's outcome. "Many hospitals don't have surgeons available at three in the morning," explains **Shawki Saad, MD,** Medical Director, Trauma Center. "We are fortunate to have a Trauma Center where we treat 1,100 patients each year, day or night, right here in the Valley."

*Continued on page 15*

**Dantae Davies, MD,** General Surgeon, is among our expert surgeons in our Level II Trauma Center.



## RIGHT HERE! YOUR TRAUMA CENTER

Paramedics rushed Leonardo to Northridge Hospital because we are one of only two Trauma Centers in the San Fernando Valley with a heliport and equipped to treat severe life-threatening injuries.

"While 11 Trauma Centers have closed their doors since the 1980s, our Center has remained open to serve the community for 26 years," says **Dantae Davies, MD,** General Surgeon.

We maintain multiple experts in all specialties who are available to assist our elite team of **Trauma Surgeons:**

**Walid Arnaout, MD, General Surgeon,**  
**Dantae Davies, MD, General Surgeon**  
**Adel Jabour, MD,**  
**Vascular/General Surgeon**  
**Uthaiiah Kokkalera, MD, General Surgeon**  
**Harold Marks, MD, General Surgeon**  
**Shawki Saad, MD, Vascular/General Surgeon, Medical Director, Trauma Center**  
**Christojohn Samuel, MD,**  
**General Surgeon**  
**Min Sauk, MD, General Surgeon**  
**Laurence Weekes, MD, General Surgeon**

We are **verified as a Level II Trauma Center** by the Verification Review Committee (VRC), an ad hoc committee of the Committee on Trauma (COT) of the American College of Surgeons (ACS).



## Sleep Apnea (CPAP) Support Group

Learn to increase your comfort, how to reduce the need for treatment and about treatment options.

**First Wednesday of February, April, June, August, October and December, 6 – 7 p.m.**

Call 818-885-8500, ext. 2782.

## Spinal Cord Injury Support Group

For spinal cord injury patients and their families.

**Thursdays, 3 – 4:15 p.m.**

Call 818-885-8500, ext. 3656.

## Stroke Support Group for Survivors & Caregivers

**Wednesdays, 3 – 4 p.m.**

Call 818-885-8500, ext. 4865.

## Trigeminal Neuralgia Support Group

*In partnership with the Trigeminal Neuralgia Association*

For Trigeminal Neuralgia and related facial pain sufferers to obtain information, encouragement and treatment explanations.

**Fourth Wednesday of each month, 1 – 2:30 p.m.**

**(No meetings in Nov. or Dec.)**

Call 818-885-8500, ext. 2565.

## Weight Loss Surgery Support Group

All patients and prospective patients are welcome to join. Learn about follow-up care and help us plan future events. Sessions are focused on group discussion.

**Second Thursday of each month, 7 – 8 p.m.**

Call toll-free 877-448-4448.

## WYNGS Support Group

For those living with spinal cord injuries.

**Second Wednesday of every other month, 4 p.m.**

Call WYNGS at 818-267-3031.

## WYNGS Alas d'Esperanza

(una reunión que se lleva a cabo en Español)

**El tercer miércoles de cada mes, a las 6:30 p.m.**

Llame a WYNGS at 818-267-3031.

## TRAUMA CENTER

*Continued from page 8*

“Upon arrival, Leonardo received blood transfusions and underwent surgery within 30 minutes to repair gunshot wounds to his abdomen, right hip, left thigh, left shoulder and chest,” explains Dr. Saad. “He had a colon and kidney perforation and a fractured vertebrae and rib.”

Seven days, 20 units of blood and two surgeries later, Leonardo was stabilized. “Before going home, I went to church and the park to thank the women who called 911. Then I went home.”

This past March, Leonardo was a guest of honor at Northridge Hospital’s annual Golden Hour Guild luncheon where he arrived donning a cowboy hat. “As you can see, I love horses and I rode again six weeks after the accident,” he remarked. “I’m blessed—I am fully recovered and have no pain. It’s a miracle.”

### *The Golden Hour Guild*

is a volunteer fundraising group that has raised more than \$830,000 for Northridge Hospital’s Trauma Center—all in an effort to ensure the Trauma Center is equipped with the technology needed to successfully treat patients within the Golden Hour. Items purchased with Guild funding include an MRI transport ventilator, blood refrigerator system and upgrading one of Northridge Hospital’s Cath Labs for heart surgeries. With the public’s support, we can continue to provide essential medical care in our Level II Trauma Center.

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For more information or to be a sponsor, please call the Northridge Hospital Foundation at 818-885-5341, ext. 2 or visit [www.NorthridgeHospitalFoundation.org](http://www.NorthridgeHospitalFoundation.org).

## CENTER FOR REHABILITATION MEDICINE

*Continued from page 4*

“You’re never fully recovered, but I commit to doing something every day that I did before the accident, and that helps me to appreciate how far I’ve come,” she states. “The three most important aspects of my continued recovery are family, rehabilitation and my work. Having a purpose and being able to fulfill it makes all the difference.”

For a comprehensive overview of services offered at the Center for Rehabilitation Medicine, please visit [www.NorthridgeHospital.org/rehab](http://www.NorthridgeHospital.org/rehab) or call 818-885-5648.

**Driver Preparation 818-885-5460**

**Hand Rehabilitation 818-885-5330**

**Occupational Therapy 818-885-5460**

**Physical Therapy 818-885-5334**