Why I Ride ... Robert Brooks, Foreign Affairs Specialist, JBLE, VA

Read thru some of this year's motorcycle safety kick-off program, good stuff... I have a comment for the "why I ride" section...because you never see a motorcycle parked outside a therapist's office!

I've been riding for 40 years, had a few close calls, but nothing (yet) that would make me hang it up for good. Riding in and of itself is therapy, as long as you still pay attention to what's going on around you and are prepared to act.

The best advice I give to new riders, of which my youngest daughter is one, is to ride like you're invisible. If you have that mindset, you'll anticipate people pulling out in front of you, making lane changes without signaling, blowing thru stops, etc.

It's helped me avoid some mishaps over 40 years for sure.