



Orlando Bowen

Orlando, or “Bo” as he is known to his teammates and friends, was a linebacker in the CFL from 2000 to 2004. He began his career with the Toronto Argonauts and ended it with the rival Hamilton Tiger-Cats.

Unfortunately, Bo’s career ended after a severe concussion suffered at the hands of two corrupt police officers. In 2004, Bo was waiting to meet friends in a parking lot when he was approached by two undercover officers who accused him of dealing drugs. Without identifying



themselves as policemen, they grabbed Orlando and forced him to the ground, kicking his face and beating his head into the pavement until he was virtually unrecognizable. Months later, Bo was acquitted of any wrongdoing, and just a month before the acquittal, one of the officers was arrested and charged with possessing and trafficking cocaine. So you know which of the two parties was the real criminal.

It’s pathetic that such an episode ruined Bo’s football career. But he has taken his story and speaks with school children,

social organizations and all who will listen about his ordeal. And amazingly, and this tells you the character of Orlando, he still does speaking engagements on behalf of police departments in Canada telling kids on the subjects of anti-bullying and good citizenship.

Orlando’s presentations are upbeat, positive and full of energy; they are guaranteed to inspire and motivate. Allow Bo to share his powerful story with your group.



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