

SAFETY AND HEROISM



DARRELL MONROE AND SCOTT SURLS

Department of Adult Correction,
Correction Enterprises

When Darrell Monroe and Scott Surles went to work on February 15, 2024, they could not have anticipated the unusual day that unfolded. Expecting an average day of delivering Correction Enterprises' product orders to state and local government customers, the two truck drivers for the Department of Adult Correction (DAC) wound up having anything but.

As Monroe and Surles drove from Correction Enterprises' Apex warehouse to deliver furniture to a DAC facility, they encountered an emergency and jumped into action. Driving along Rush Street in Raleigh, the pair observed a crashed car with a motorist in need of immediate assistance. With Monroe behind the wheel, Surles quickly dialed 911 to report the accident before the pair climbed out of the delivery truck and headed for the wreck. As they approached, Monroe spotted smoke billowing out from under the car. Surles checked in with the car's driver and discovered the driver's legs were trapped under the steering wheel.

With the smoke around the vehicle intensifying, the urgency to remove the motorist from the car loomed over Monroe's and Surles' heads. Hopeful that they could pull the driver out through the car's window, Surles pounded his fists against the glass. Meanwhile, Monroe frantically searched the Correction Enterprises truck for a tool to help. Although Monroe came up empty, a third passerby offered Surles a lug wrench from their car. Surles took it without a second thought, warned the driver and smashed through the window. As the truck drivers carried the motorist out of harm's way, flames licked at the wreckage and smoke consumed the spaces Monroe and Surles had been in just moments before.

Far outside the scope of their responsibilities as DAC employees, Monroe and Surles didn't hesitate to help a fellow North Carolinian.. Moreover, the pair continued about their delivery route the moment emergency responders arrived despite the life-threatening event that had just unfolded. Their bravery is admirable and their commitment to their work is commendable. For their selfless and heroic actions, the State of North Carolina thanks Darrell Monroe and Scott Surles.

