

# Safety and Heroism



**KELLY SELLERS**  
Department of Transportation

Kelly Sellers works as an Incident Management Patrol (IMAP) Responder with the N.C. Department of Transportation. On February 18, 2020, he heard emergency responders in Brunswick County being dispatched to Highway 74/76 westbound near Old Fayetteville Road overpass. Sellers was nearby when this call came in and responded immediately to the incident. Upon arrival, he discovered a traumatic scene.

A large utility work truck had fallen off a jack and onto the driver while the driver and passenger were attempting to change a flat tire. The driver's legs were visible from under the vehicle and his chest was being compressed by the weight of the vehicle. The driver was having difficulty breathing and was being burned from the exhaust pipe. Sellers immediately utilized his floor jack to lift the vehicle and placed a jack stand to prevent it from falling again. This allowed first responders to free the driver and begin emergency medical treatment before the fire department arrived to assist. The driver, who suffered crush-type injuries and burns to his upper torso and chest, was immediately transported to the hospital for treatment.

Sellers' rapid response reduced the time the individual was trapped, no doubt reducing the severity of their injuries. The driver received lifesaving care prior to the arrival of the fire department. In the words of Brunswick Counties EMS Deputy Director, "Sellers quick actions once on the scene, created a positive outcome for these this individual." Sellers' actions during this event exemplify the highest ideals in safety and heroism as he managed this situation professionally and was able to calm and release these individuals from under the vehicle so they could be treated by first responders.

