

## **Law Enforcement Hero**

James Moss and Harrison Daniel  
Athens, GA

Officers, Harrison Daniel and James Moss were dispatched to a possible vehicle accident on Tallassee Rd. A citizen called Athens-Clarke County 9-1-1 stating he heard a loud crash and then a car horn blowing.

Daniel located a Chevrolet Impala that had crashed head-on into a large tree and was fully engulfed in flames. Daniel immediately went to the vehicle where he heard a man screaming for help stating he was trapped in the burning vehicle. Daniel retrieved his fire extinguisher and rushed to assist the burning man. Shortly after Daniel had begun fighting the fire that was consuming the driver's legs, Moss arrived at the scene and also began fighting the fire. Both officers attempted to pull the man from the burning vehicle but the impact from the crash had pinned him in the driver's compartment. Daniel located a pry bar and tried to force the vehicle door open to help remove the man from the car but was unsuccessful.

Throughout the ordeal, the two officers constantly talked with man who was crying for help. At one point, the man told the officers to stop trying to save him, saying, "It's my time to go." The officers refused to surrender and kept telling the man not to give up, that they were not going to leave him.

Upon arrival of the Athens-Clarke County Fire Department and with their assistance the fire was put out and the man was pulled from the vehicle. The driver had sustained massive burn injuries to both of his legs. He was rushed to Athens Regional Medical Center and then transferred in critical condition to the Augusta Burn Center.

Without question, if it had not been for the heroic efforts of Daniel and Moss, the driver of the burning vehicle would have certainly not survived this crash. Not only did they prevent the fire from reaching the driver's torso, but their encouraging words and presence helped the man fight the excruciating pain and not surrender to certain death.

