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A member of the Army Heritage and Education team reacted quickly to an emergency situation in Carlisle on June 18.

Richard Baker, a technical information specialist, was traveling on U.S. Route 11, around 12:10 p.m., stopped at the Post Road intersection.

Noticing flames erupting from the top of an oncoming garbage truck, Baker pulled through the intersection and stopped adjacent to the truck to warn the driver of the fire.

Baker then grabbed a fire extinguisher from his vehicle, asked his wife to call 911, and was successful in extinguishing the initial blaze.

Because of the smoldering conditions however, Baker advised the driver to shut his vehicle down and vacate it.

Baker then provided traffic control around the vehicle until local emergency responders were on the scene.

"This isn't the first time I've stopped for emergencies, said Baker. "My wife doesn't want to ride with me anymore as such reoccurs on a repeated basis."

Baker's experience as a firefighter comes from 25 years in combined military (USAF) and volunteer fire/emergency services.

When asked about carrying a fire extinguisher in his vehicle, Baker responded, "A good scout is always 'Prepared'."

"Once a firefighter, always a firefighter," said Baker.

"Rick has also helped with a house fire, and has assisted with other emergency situations locally," said Army Heritage and Education director Col. Matt Dawson. "He is an old firefighter and these things 'follow' him," he said, adding that Baker seems to always be helping out.