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LONE GROVE, Okla. -- A Lone Grove firefighter was hit by a vehicle Monday on Meridian Road while working to help extinguish a grass fire.

News 12s Amy Jenson spoke with the driver who hit the firefighter.

Kris Rowe was in the man well -- a steel platform with railings on the bed of the brush truck-- where the firefighter stands to protect himself.

Rowe was spraying the fire that was nearing the road when 18-year-old Jonathan Curb drove through the smoke and accidentally hit him.

"I didn't know what happened, it happened real fast," Curb said.

Curb said he was following his sister in his dad's truck to get the shocks fixed when he saw the smoke.

"I thought, it is not too bad, but then I thought no it is bad and maybe we shouldn't do it, but we did it and I paid the price for it," Curb said.

Curb said he took off his sunglasses to see through the smoke better, and was pulling to the side of the road when it happened.

"I didn't see him and then I hit the truck and that is all I knew," Curb said.

He said his first thought was to see if the firefighter was OK.

"I rolled down my window as far as I could, asked the fireman, how is he doing and got no response so i thought, oh no this is bad," Curb said.

Rowe was taken to the hospital with leg injuries.

A department spokesperson Curt Kott says Rowe has soft tissue damage and a bad ankle sprain.

"It could have been much worse if he had been walking beside the truck and not been seen and gotten run over," Curt Kott said.

The lesson to be learned here: don't drive through smoke or fire, just turn around.

And if you find yourself surrounded by smoke?

"If you can't see where you are going, you need to stop," Kott said.

Curb says he plans to meet with the firefighter in person to apologize.