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Detention Center Custodian Surprised with 90th Birthday Celebration

(CHARLOTTE, NC) -Monday afternoon, the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office hosted a birthday celebration for a very dedicated custodian. Mr. John Phillips turned 90-years-old on October 18, 2021.

Mr. Phillips has worked diligently at Mecklenburg County Detention Center-Central (MCDCC) for the past five years as a contract employee with TKC Management Services. MCDCC staff and visitors are always greeted by his friendly smile and demeanor. Mr. Phillips takes great pride in his position and can be seen walking the grounds of MCDCC every afternoon to ensure no litter or debris is present.

"I'm just as nervous as a newborn baby," said Mr. Phillips when he was surprised by Sheriff McFadden, MCSO staff and family members Monday afternoon. "I'm surprised, [Sheriff] McFadden told me he had something for me, but I didn't know it was going to be like this. All y'all are my children. I appreciate it and I'd do anything I could for you."

During the surprise celebration, Sheriff McFadden presented Mr. Phillips with a few tokens of appreciation along with a plaque and framed portrait. "When I first got here Mr. Phillips told me something that I've only shared with a few people and it's something that I still carry with

me. It meant so much to me in my new role here as Sheriff. This is your lobby [Mr. Phillips] and we want people to know that” said Sheriff McFadden.

When asked about how MCDCC has evolved over the years, Mr. Phillips said, “I’ve seen so many changes, people in better positions. Everybody just loves one another. God don’t have any lazy soldiers.”

Attached Photos Courtesy: MCSO

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