



City of Red Bluff

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Public Service Announcement

As we near the official start of summer, the Red Bluff Police Department would like to remind the motoring public about the dangers of increasing temperatures. The dangers of leaving pets or children in an enclosed vehicle are apparent, but they still occur.

According to Safekids.org, A child dies from heatstroke caused by being left in a locked vehicle every eight days. Babies and young children are particularly at risk because their bodies heat up three to five times faster than an adult. These occurrences are completely avoidable and preventable. At 80 degrees, a vehicle can easily exceed 100 degrees within minutes.

I know it is tempting to leave children in the vehicle while you run into the convenience store. It may even be tempting to leave the vehicle running with the children inside. California Vehicle Code 15620 (Kaitlyn's law) prohibits:

- (A) Leaving a child under 6 years in a motor vehicle without the supervision of a person 12 years or older.
 - (1) When there are conditions that present a significant risk to the Child's health or safety.
 - (2) When the vehicle's engine is running or the vehicle's keys are in the ignition or both.

Assembly Bill 797 (Right to Rescue Act) has also come into effect. This act allows any good Samaritan to smash a vehicle's window in order to save an animal from a hot vehicle. This Act requires several conditions be met.

- 1) Checking the vehicle cannot be open
- 2) Ensure the animal is suffering harm, or is in immediate danger.
- 3) Calling law enforcement
- 4) Remaining with the animal until first responders arrive.
- 5) Not use more force than necessary during the rescue.

If these conditions are met, the Good Samaritan is protected against criminal prosecution and any civil damages.

With this information, it is our hope that the general public will take extra measures to ensure they do not leave pets or children in a locked vehicle.

The City of Red Bluff is an Equal Opportunity Provider

We, the members of the Red Bluff Police Department, are committed to being responsive to our community in the delivery of quality services. Recognizing our responsibility to maintain order, while affording dignity and respect to every individual, our objective is to improve the quality of life through a community partnership which promotes safe, secure neighborhoods throughout the city.