



# NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[GlendalesAZ.com/Fire](http://GlendalesAZ.com/Fire)

## Glendale Fire Department

6829 North 58th Drive / Glendale, Arizona 85301

623-930-4400



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CONTACT: Capt. Michael Young, PIO, 623-986-0148

## **GLENDALE FIRE ADAMANT PEOPLE SHOULD NEVER LEAVE CHILDREN IN CAR**

**Glendale, Ariz.** — No Child Left Behind was a 2001 Act of Congress concerning the education of children in public schools. “No Child Left Behind” should also be the slogan of every parent regarding leaving children unattended in a vehicle, even if the car is running with the air conditioning on.

Besides the potential of having your child abducted or the possibility of the child placing the vehicle in gear and causing harm to themselves or others, your child is at a risk of heat stroke regardless of the outside temperature if left in a car.

Heat stroke, also known as hyperthermia, is when the body’s core temp rapidly rises, and the body loses its ability to cool itself. A child’s body temperature can rise 3 to 5 times faster than an adult. Heat Stroke, the most serious heat-related illness, can cause many medical complications like seizures, organ failure, brain damage and death.

According to a report published by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, when outside temperatures are in the 60s, the temperature inside a vehicle can rise above 110, even if the windows are cracked. The Arizona summer can bring temperatures of 200° inside of vehicles and although temperatures have been in the 80s and 90s, temperatures inside a car can become dangerous within a few minutes.

Since 1998, on average 40 children nationwide die each year as a result of Heat Stroke after being left unattended in a vehicle. A majority of the time, the caregiver “forgot” that the child was in the vehicle.

Here are some tips from the Glendale Fire Department so that no child is left behind!

- Never leave your child in a car without an adult, even if you expect only to be gone a few seconds.
- When driving with the kids, place a note/object on the dash reminding you to make sure all children are out of the vehicle when you stop. There are also apps for smartphones that can tell when you have arrived at your destination and remind you not to forget your baby in the vehicle.
- Always make sure your vehicle is locked and place the keys out of children's reach. One-third of vehicle hyperthermia deaths results from a child gaining access to an unlocked vehicle and not being able to get out.
- Be cautious when loading or unloading the trunk.
- If you see that someone has left their child unattended in a vehicle, call 911 immediately.
- If a child is missing, check the pool first then all vehicles including the trunk.

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