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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**CITY OF TEMPLE TERRACE TO CONDUCT HOT CAR DEMONSTRATION**  
*Goal is to prevent vehicular heatstroke in children*

(TEMPLE TERRACE, FL – September 5, 2019) The City of Temple Terrace has proclaimed September as Child Passenger Safety Awareness Month in an effort to draw attention to the dangers of vehicular heatstroke, one of the leading causes of non-crash related fatalities among children. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, more than 50 children died in parked cars in 2018, and the fatalities this year are on track to equal or exceed this total. Particularly in Florida, the danger does not diminish even as the seasons change. The Temple Terrace Fire Department and Safe Kids Worldwide will host an event at 11 am Monday, September 9 at Fire Station #1, 124 Bullard Parkway, to highlight the risk and share prevention tips.

NoHeatstroke.org reports that the temperature inside a car can reach 110 degrees, even when the temperature outside is as low as 57 degrees, which is higher than the average winter temperature in our area.

"We know from past experience that these fatalities can happen anytime," said Temple Terrace Fire Chief Ian Kemp. "We don't want any family to have to needlessly suffer such a devastating loss. That's why we are asking everyone to help protect kids from this preventable tragedy by never leaving a child alone in a car, not even for a minute. And if you see a child alone in a car, call 911."

Vehicular heatstroke deaths don't just happen when a child is forgotten. The second leading cause (26%) of such deaths are children getting trapped in unattended vehicles, according to NoHeatstroke.org.

"Get in the habit of always locking your car doors and trunk, year-round, to prevent children from entering a vehicle in your absence," Kemp stresses.

Safe Kids will offer useful tips for parents to avoid both unintentionally leaving a child or children behind in their vehicles as well as preventing their children from becoming entrapped. They also will team with the Fire Department to conduct a live demonstration of what to do if a member of the public encounters a child left unattended in a vehicle. The demo car will be equipped with a temperature gauge inside and out.

Parents, caregivers, other members of the public and the media are invited to attend the demonstration.

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*The Mission of the City of Temple Terrace is to deliver professional services to our community while promoting, protecting and preserving the heritage, natural resources and quality of life for future generations of our amazing city.*