



## **Bakersfield Composite Squadron #121**

### **60-Second Safety Advisor #41**

#### **Hot Cars**

You have probably been surprised at times when you returned to your car after only being out of it for a short period of time, and upon opening it up found it to be extremely hot. A closed-up car sitting in the summer sun quickly turns into an oven. Temperatures can climb from 78 to over 100 degrees Fahrenheit in just three minutes, and to 125 degrees or more in just 6-8 minutes.

This potential for rapid increases in temperature has led to many tragedies. Never leave children or pets in an unattended car, even for a minute. Many parents and pet owners thought that it would surely be safe to leave them just long enough to run to the ATM machine or to pick up a loaf of bread, only to return and find that the car and their child or pet are overheated.

Another thing to think about when entering a car with a young child in the heat of summer is the child safety seat. Child safety seats can be hotter than a vehicle seat and children's bodies absorb more heat from the environment putting them at higher risk for burns. Touch the seat yourself to ensure that it is not too hot before placing the child in the seat. Be aware of the danger and use caution.

