

# HARLINGEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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HONOR ◊ COURAGE ◊ INTEGRITY

## PET SAFETY



With warmer temperatures returning, the Harlingen Police Department would like to remind pet-owners that it only takes minutes for a pet left inside a vehicle to succumb to heatstroke and suffocation. Even on a 78 degree day, temperatures inside a parked vehicle in the shade can exceed 90 degrees and hit a scorching 160 degrees if parked in the sun. Rolling down a window or parking in the shade does not guarantee protection, and rolling down the window sufficiently may allow the pet to escape.

### Precautions:

- Leave your pet at home on warm days
- On road trips with your pet, make sure to take plenty of fresh drinking water
- Don't let pets ride loose in open pick-up beds
- Take your pet into the shade, an air conditioned area, or to the Vet if you see signs of heat exhaustion.

### Texas Laws: Penal Code Chapter 42

#### Sec. 42.092. CRUELTY TO NONLIVESTOCK ANIMALS.

- (b) A person commits an offense if the person intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly:
- (3) fails unreasonably to provide necessary food, water, care, or shelter for an animal in the person's custody:
  - (4) abandons unreasonably an animal in the person's custody:
- (c) An Offense under subsection (b)(3), (4), (5), (6), or (9) is a Class A Misdemeanor.



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