
Sample Live Demonstration - Mock Rescue

Forgetting a child is in a car can happen to anyone, which is one of the reasons we are urging everyone – not just parents – to help prevent child heatstroke deaths. It doesn't take long for a car to become a life-threatening place for a child. By calling 911 when you see an unattended child in a vehicle, you can help save a life.

Our goal is to demonstrate positive, proactive behavior that can be taken to save a life. To help emphasize this point, we're following our press event with a brief demonstration showing what happens when you dial 911 to report an unattended child. The "rescue" will roll out as follows:

- **Sample 911 call over the audio system in the auditorium:** A bystander reports on an unattended child and the call center gathers the relevant information.
- **Fire rescue and emergency services arrive at the event venue,** in front of the building entrance, where a car will be parked and hooked up to a temperature display. The temperature display will indicate just how hot the inside of the car had become over the course of the morning. (Tabletop displays can be used).
- **Designated EMS representative talks** through the actions fire rescue would take. Note that no actions will be taken to the car – either breaking in or "rescuing" a dummy.
 - Getting Started
 - Wait until the participants have assembled outside.
 - Welcome audience.
 - Introduce yourself and the participating agencies in the live demo.
- **Set the scene**
 - Temperature inside and outside the display car.
 - A bystander wouldn't know how long a child has been in the car already, and it is imperative to call 911 immediately.
 - How fast the heat rises – study by San Jose University – average 19 degrees every 10 minutes.
 - Representative cues the fire truck, rescue and law enforcement to put their lights and sirens on and pull up next to the display car (more effective if they are positioned out of site and drive in with lights and sirens).



- **Scenarios**
 - Scenario A: (Passive) Fire rescue, EMS and law enforcement get out of their vehicles and stand next to the speaker as he/she walks through the protocol.
 - Scenario B: (Active) Fire rescue, EMS and law enforcement follow their protocol but don't break glass or extricate a doll from the demo car.
 - Rescue get out the stretcher and equipment from bus
 - Firefighters get out and look into car, access the scene and pretend to use Slim Jim (do not damage car) – take a couple of minutes to correspond with the conclusion of the presentation
 - Law enforcement is speaking with bystander

- **Protocol (Adjust to reflect the local protocol)**
 - Assessing the situation (are any doors unlocked? Is the child responsive, or visually distressed? Are the parents within earshot?)
 - Extricating the “child” (this will be discussed, but not demonstrated, except by showing the tools Fire Rescue would have on hand to free the child)
 - Overview of immediate next steps (how the child is treated on the way to the emergency room).

The main reminders to everyone are that this is a serious situation and that if you're a bystander, you need to act immediately. Also, that emergency personnel are trained to evaluate these situations and act accordingly.

