



SHREVEPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mother Arrested After Leaving Child in Hot Car at Walmart



LaCrystal Johnson

The Shreveport Police Department has arrested a woman after a two-year-old child was found left alone in a hot, turned-off vehicle outside the Walmart on Westport Drive.

Around 10:30 a.m., officers were called by a concerned citizen who saw the child unattended in the back seat of a parked vehicle. Responding officers arrived quickly and located the child, who was strapped in a car seat and sweating heavily. The vehicle was turned off, and although a window had been rolled down, the interior of the car was dangerously hot.

Officers were able to safely remove the child from the vehicle before tragedy could occur.

Shortly after, the child's mother, identified as LaCrystal Johnson, exited the store and was taken into custody. She has been charged with one count of Child Desertion.

Johnson reportedly told officers she believed the child would be safe because the window was rolled down. However, at the time, the outside temperature was approximately 93 degrees. On an asphalt lot, the temperature inside a parked, turned-off vehicle can climb to well over 100 degrees within minutes—posing extreme risk to any child left inside.

Thanks to the quick action of a concerned citizen and the swift response of officers, this child is safe. But this incident could have ended much differently.

A Reminder to All Parents and Guardians: Never leave a child alone in a vehicle—especially during the summer months. August is typically the hottest month of the year, and even a short time inside a hot car can turn deadly.