

Aurora woman arrested after tot left in car

By Brock Weir

An Aurora mother was arrested last week charged with child abandonment.

The 42-year-old woman was arrested Thursday morning in Markham after her two-year-old child was found locked in a vehicle in the summer heat. According to Constable Blair McQuillan of the York Regional Police, the tot was discovered in the car by a concerned bystander.

At approximately 11.30 a.m., police were called to a commercial plaza parking lot at 9255 Woodbine Avenue, near 16th Avenue, by a concerned citizen who found an unattended toddler locked in a vehicle, said Constable McQuillan in a statement. When officers arrived on the scene, they found the child in distress. Officers were able to pry open a car window, unlock the door, and free the child.

He added the mother of the child was soon found and was arrested at the scene without incident.

Charged with Child Abandonment and released from custody, she will next appear in court in Newmarket on Friday, July 26. Police have not released any names to protect the victim.

Police ask anyone with information to call York Regional Police #5 District Criminal Investigations Unit at 1-266-876-5423, x7531, anonymously to Crime Stoppers either by calling 1-800-222-TIPS, going online at www.1800222TIPS.com, or by texting your information to CRIMES starting with the word YORK.

It is imperative that anyone caring for a child understands the consequences of leaving children unattended inside vehicles during extreme weather conditions, said Constable McQuillan. Extreme heat during the summer months can result in serious injury or death.

In addition to these consequences, individuals who are caring for a child may find themselves facing criminal charges under the Child and Family Services Act that requires children under 10 years to be provided with adequate and reasonable care and supervision.

The two-year-old girl was transported to hospital as a precaution.