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## For Immediate Release:

## Car Hits House

On August 18, 2008 at about 9am, a car being driven by Paul Michael Toulottei, 51 years of age, of Ocean City, Maryland lost control and struck the front porch of a house located at 608 Philadelphia Avenue.

Toulottei was driving southbound on Philadelphia Avenue, when he claimed to be experience muscle cramps in his left leg. He bent down to grab his leg at the same time he began to cough and gag. Toulottei then lost control of his vehicle striking a telephone pole in front of Ocean City Weekly Rental Office. The car then went across the East crosswalk at 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Philadelphia Avenue and crashed into the front porch of 608 Philadelphia Avenue.

OCPD Patrol Officers responded to the scene. The driver (Toulottei) was transported by Ocean City EMS to Atlantic General Hospital for treatment of minor injuries. Amazingly no parked cars were struck and no other citizens were injured. The side staircase and front porch of 608 Philadelphia Avenue sustained major damage.

Toulottei has been charged with the following misdemeanor traffic offenses:

- Failure to reduce speed to avoid a collision
- Negligent driving
- Driving on sidewalk when prohibited
- Failure to drive on right half of the roadway when required

The OCPD would like to take this opportunity to remind drivers to use seatbelts. As in this case, the injuries sustained by Toulottei were minimal because he was wearing his safety belt at the time of the crash.