



NEWS RELEASE

OCEAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND



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For Immediate Release:

OCPD Officers Injured after Drunk Driver Hits Two Stopped Police Cars

On August 23, 2008 at about 2:40 hours, two marked Ocean City Police cars were stopped one behind the other, at the northbound traffic light in the turn lane of 48th Street and Coastal Highway.

A vehicle described as an "Infiniti G37" being driven by Ferris Edmund Hickey, IV, (34) years of age, of Cary, North Carolina, failed to stop and struck OCPD marked police car #878 forcing it into the rear end of a second marked OCPD police car #860.

OCPD Officers Leon Lacy and Justin Hoban who were operating each of the marked OCPD vehicles immediately exited their police cars and checked on the driver of the vehicle which had just struck them. OCPD Traffic Safety Units responded to the scene. Both Officers Lacy and Hoban were transported to Atlantic General Hospital and treated for minor injuries and released. Hickey was not injured.

OCPD Traffic Safety Officers suspected Hickey may be intoxicated at the time of the crash. Officers administered several field sobriety tests, which Hickey failed to successfully complete. Hickey agreed to take a breath test which resulted in Hickey having a blood alcohol content of over .16. Hickey has been charged with:

MD/TA 21-902a 1-Driving under the influence of alcohol
MD/TA 21-902 a 2-Driving under the influence per se
MD/TA 21-902 b 1-Driving while impaired by alcohol
MD/TA 21-801(b) - Failure to control speed to avoid collision
MD/TA 21-901.1(b) - Negligent driving

Hickey was seen by an Ocean City District Court Commissioner and was held on \$3500 bond.

The OCPD would like to remind citizens that excessive alcoholic beverage consumption can impair your judgment. If you drink and drive and you are caught, you will be charged. In this case the suspected drunk driver did not stop and collided with two marked police vehicles. This incident could have resulted in a tragic and senseless loss of life. In this case both police cars were badly damaged and are out of service for an extended period of time.

Ocean City Police urge drivers who have had too much to drink, to please use public transportation or take a taxi. If you are not from Ocean City, bartenders and most businesses will call you a cab to ensure you and everyone on the roads can get to their residences safely.

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Quite often, citizens' hunches turn out to be valuable information to us. If you have information that you feel we should know, we encourage you to leave us e-mail. OCPD@ococean.com