



# NEWS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release:**

## OCPD ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT 19<sup>th</sup> YEAR OF PLAY IT SAFE

The Ocean City Police Department is excited to participate in the 19<sup>th</sup> year of the *Play It Safe* Passport to Fun program. The program, which is offered to the latest high school graduates, joins several Town of Ocean City departments, as well as local businesses and organizations, to encourage “senior-weeker’s” to make informed, healthy choices while having responsible fun without the use of alcohol and other drugs.

Along with the presence of uniformed officers at various *Play It Safe* events, a few Ocean City Police Department employees also donate their time off-duty to volunteer at the events. “It is an extremely beneficial program,” commented Chief Bernadette A. DiPino. “Not only do the high school seniors benefit from the programs, but the community as a whole is affected positively by *Play It Safe*.”

With over 13,000 participants in 2007, Chief DiPino hopes that this year will reach even more graduating teens. “The enthusiasm from students seems to escalate each year,” DiPino continued. “I think that by providing such a wide range of events for graduates, it gives them the ability to stay busy and socialize in a drug and alcohol free environment. The Ocean City Police Department is not only thrilled to have the program but we are proud to be a part of it.”

The *Play It Safe* program is sponsored by the Ocean City Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Committee. Programs include karaoke, windsurfing, kayak relays, bowling, mini-golf, beach volleyball, basketball, laser-tag, paintball and so much more. For more information about the events please visit [www.playitsafeoceancity.com](http://www.playitsafeoceancity.com).

**May 20, 2008**

**PAS Jessica King**

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](mailto:OCPD@ococean.com)