



NEWS RELEASE

OCEAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND



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For Immediate Release:

OCEAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES COMMUNITY POLICING AWARD IN SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

The Ocean City Police Department was recognized on Sunday, November 9, 2008, in San Diego, California, as a finalist for its outstanding community policing initiatives. The award, which was given by the Community Policing Committee of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), identifies and rewards best practices in community policing by recognizing police organizations that use the power of partnerships to make local, national and global communities safer from crime.

The partnership that earned the Ocean City Police Department national recognition involved the Ocean City Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Committee and the Play-It-Safe program. "This is a very proud moment for me and for the Ocean City Police Department as a whole," commented Ocean City Police Chief Bernadette A. DiPino. "We are very lucky to live in a town where the citizens and the police officers have such a wonderful relationship. We work together as a team and that is what Community Policing is all about."

While DiPino is proud of the national recognition that has been received for the Ocean City Police Department, she insists that the credit should not be taken solely by the organization. "We didn't win this award on our own. We won this with the help of the OC Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Committee, The Worcester County Health Department several departments within the Town of Ocean City, including Transportation, Public Works and Recreation and Parks. Also, we can not forget about the hundreds of volunteers for the Play-It-Safe events, the business that donate to the program and to the graduates each year that choose to attend the Play-It-Safe events."

November 18, 2008

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



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Members of the Ocean City Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Committee pose with OCPD Chief Bernadette DiPino with the IACP "Best Practices" in Community Policing award. OCDAPC Members include: Sharon Smith, Pete Peterson, Candy Gebhart, Pam Jones, Mary Hedlesky, Bell Wheatley, Al "Hondo" Handy, Donna Greenwood, Joyce Taylor-Showell, Karen Johnson, Marty Pusey, and Bev Townsend



Chief DiPino pictured receiving the award from a representative of the IACP on November 8, 2009 at the IACP Convention.

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