



NEWS RELEASE

OCEAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND



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For Immediate Release:

OCPD REMINDS CITIZENS TO "WALK SMART" IN OCEAN CITY

With the summer season upon us, the OCPD reminds citizens to please "Walk Smart". Beginning this weekend, as in years past, the OCPD will have police personnel at busy downtown intersections to assist pedestrians crossing Baltimore Avenue. This will continue throughout the months of June and July. Pedestrians are reminded to:

- Cross the street only at intersections. Do not jaywalk.
- Use marked crosswalks where available.
- Do not cross in the middle of the street or between parked cars. Drivers are not expecting pedestrians to cross mid-block and you are more likely to be hit if you do this.
- Make eye contact with drivers when crossing busy streets and continue to watch out for traffic the entire time you are in the crosswalk. Your life may depend on it, regardless of whether or not you have the right-of-way.
- At intersections, scan over your shoulder for turning vehicles. Make eye contact with the driver of a stopped car while crossing in front or in back of it -- making sure that the driver knows you are there. This is also important for cars that might be backing out of driveways.
- Use extra caution when crossing multiple-lane, higher speed streets.
- Always look for signs that a car is about to move (rear lights, exhaust smoke, sound of motor, wheels turning), and never walk behind a vehicle that is backing up.
- Children should not cross streets by themselves or be allowed to play or walk near traffic. Kids are small, unpredictable, and cannot judge vehicle distances and speeds.
- Always hold your child's hand. Never allow a child under 10 to cross the street alone.
- If your view of approaching traffic is blocked by something, move to where you can see (e.g., outside edge of a parked car), stop and look left-right-left again.
- Never run or dash into the street.

Ocean City Police ask if you're planning on consuming alcoholic beverages, take extra time when crossing the streets. Cross the street only at intersections. Use marked crosswalks where available. Do not jaywalk.

Don't drink and drive. Use a designated driver or use public transportation. Local restaurants and bars will assist you in obtaining transportation if you ask. If you need further assistance, contact the OCPD.

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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@ococcean.com