



NEWS RELEASE

OCEAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND



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For Immediate Release:

SCOOTER VIOLATORS SUBJECT TO \$100 FINE

Last summer the Ocean City Council unanimously passed an ordinance requiring the wearing of helmets and footwear for rental scooter riders. Now, following discussion at Wednesday's police commission meeting, violators of this law are subject to a municipal infraction punishable by a fine of \$100.

The ordinance applies to rental scooters, mopeds and motorized minibikes, however does not include people who own and ride their own personal scooters. Rental scooters are also required to be clearly marked, so they can easily be distinguished from personal vehicles in order to help police identify which riders should be wearing helmets.

In addition, motor scooter rental companies in Ocean City must provide helmets for the riders, which the rider is required to wear. If a scooter rental company is found in violation, it is also punishable by a municipal infraction fine of \$100.

The Ocean City Police Department is reminding citizens commuting on scooters or mopeds to follow safe riding practices. While a helmet and footwear are mandatory for rental scooters, the OCPD recommends that all motor scooter operators follow these practices as well. In addition, be aware of motorists' "blind spots" and obey the speed limit, as excessive speed is a factor in many accidents. Finally, keep both hands on the handlebars, both feet on the floorboard, use extra caution at intersections and be cautious of pedestrians.

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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.

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