



NEWS RELEASE

OCEAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND



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For Immediate Release:

OCPD REMINDS CITIZENS OF LASER POINTER LAWS

During the month of July 2010, the Ocean City Police Department has experienced an increase in the number of complaints regarding laser pointers. The OCPD is reminding citizens while it is legal to buy, sell and possess commercial laser pointers, it is illegal for any person to point or shine a laser pointer on another person.

Maryland State law restricts individuals from knowingly using a laser pointer to illuminate another in a public place in a matter that harasses or endangers another. The Ocean City Police Department is continuing to enforce laser pointer violations. If an individual is found to be using a laser pointer in a harassing manner they are potentially subject to a fine of up to \$500 or imprisonment for up to 30 days or both.

The Ocean City Police Department warns citizens of the dangers that can accompany laser pointers. Hazards are most likely to affect the eye, including flash blindness, damage to the retina and an after image or glare. The Ocean City Police Department reminds citizens laser pointers are not toys and should be used with adequate care and supervision.

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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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