



Blaze Catania
Chief of Police

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News Release

Incident: Motor Vehicle Accident
Date of Print: August 22, 2007
P.D. Case #: 07-44129

On Tuesday, August 21, 2007, the Egg Harbor Township Police Department responded to a motor vehicle accident which occurred at approximately 9:33pm on Delilah Road going up the Atlantic City Expressway Overpass in the McKee City section of the township.

A bicyclist, Derek Elkins, 25 of Old Zion Road in the township was riding a bicycle on the east bound shoulder of Delilah Road heading eastbound. A 1993 Ford Van, the driver later identified as David Strawbridge, 45, living at the Courtesy Inn on Tilton Road, was traveling on the east bound shoulder when he ran into the back of the bicycle. The result of the impact cause Elkins to be ejected off the bike onto the front windshield of the van and over the back of the vehicle.

Elkins received head trauma among other injuries. The bicyclist was not wearing a helmet at the time of the accident. He was transported to the AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center, City Division by the Egg Harbor Township Rescue Squad.

Witnesses to the accident were able to copy the tag number down before the van fled the scene. When the officers arrived and ran the tag number, it came back to a resident in the Scullville section of the township. While officers were at that location waiting for the suspect to arrive, Officer Bob Harte remembered running that tag on that vehicle a week or two ago. When he did the plate check back then, the vehicle was parked in the Courtesy Inn parking lot. Officers responded to the Courtesy Inn, checked the parking lot, and found the vehicle. They checked with management and confirm that subject was staying at the motel.

Through investigation the subject was identified as Strawbridge and in fact had a \$500. Warrant outstanding from Elk Township. Strawbridge was arrested for the warrant and was charged with Leaving the Scene and Failure to report an accident, Driving while intoxicated, and leaving the scene of an accident while being suspended, which is an enhanced penalty. Other charges pending completion of the investigation. Due to the extent of the injuries and leaving the scene, the Traffic Safety Unit, headed by Sergeant Chuck Super is investigating the incident with the lead officers being Officer Kevin Devlin and Al Maiorano. The Atlantic County Prosecutors Office Fatal Collision Unit, which includes Sergeant Keith Fane and Investigator Kevin Hincks responded and also assisted with the accident scene and the criminal side of the investigation.

Traffic on Delilah Road was reduced to one lane while the scene was being cleared and investigated.

FOR ANY CLARIFICATION NEEDED FOR THE ABOVE NEWS RELEASE
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