



# MORRIS TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## *NEWS RELEASE*

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### **MADD recognizes Morris Township officer**

Morris Township Officer Steven Crump was recognized yesterday for his efforts to keep drunk drivers off our roadways. In 2011, the Morris Township Police Department arrested 110 drivers suspected of driving while intoxicated. With 23 DWI arrests, Ptl. Crump earned the MADD award for the second consecutive year.

The event recognizing over 400 state and local law enforcement officers was hosted by the NJ Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) and held at the Middlesex County College. The organizer of the event, Maria Esteves lost her 8-year old daughter Rosemary at the hands of a drunk driver in 1991. She emphasized that every impaired driver stopped is a crash, injury, or fatality prevented. Impaired driving is one of the most often committed crimes, randomly killing someone in America every 30 minutes and nearly 50 people a day. That means you, your family or friends are just as likely to be innocent victims.

Using the most current NHTSA figures New Jersey had 556 traffic fatalities in 2010. 153 of those fatalities involved an impaired driver. In New Jersey, a person is guilty of drunk driving if he/she operates a motor vehicle with a Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) of 0.08 percent or greater. BAC refers to the amount of alcohol in your blood. Although the law refers to a 0.08 percent BAC, you can be convicted of driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor even when your BAC is below 0.08 percent. Consuming even small amounts of alcohol dulls the senses, decreases reaction time, and hampers judgment, vision and alertness.



Maria Esteves of Mothers Against Drunk Drivers with Morris Township Ptl. Crump

The summer season is a time when Americans gather to enjoy free time with friends and family. The Morris Township Police Department wants all of our residents to have a safe and sober summer. Don't be fooled. Impaired driving is no accident nor is it a victimless crime.