



# NEWS RELEASE

## HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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### **Police Charge Driver Who Struck Auxiliary Officer** *Police Foundation Establishes Fund to Aid Pieter Lucas*

Howard County police have charged a Glen Burnie man with injuring a volunteer Howard County auxiliary officer in a car crash last month. Johnny Price, 35, of the 400 block of Maple Lane, was charged with multiple traffic violations in an incident that caused auxiliary officer Pieter Lucas to lose part of his leg.

Lucas, 21, was struck Nov. 23 as he was directing traffic around a collision on Route 40 in Ellicott City around 6:20 p.m. Price was driving a 1997 Chevrolet Blazer when he struck Lucas, pinning him between the Blazer and a marked auxiliary police car, a Chevrolet Tahoe.

Lucas was taken to Shock Trauma in critical condition. Doctors had to amputate Lucas's leg above the knee as a result of his injuries. He has since been sent home and remains in great spirits.

Price was charged late Friday with speeding, failure to control speed to avoid a collision, negligent driving and failure to reduce speed in dangerous highway conditions. According to investigators, Price was reaching for his cell phone, which had fallen to the floor of his Blazer, at the time of the crash.

In response to numerous requests, the Howard County Police Foundation has established a fund through which people can make donations to help Lucas and his family. Checks can be made payable to the Howard County Police Foundation and can be mailed to the attention of Lt. John Newnan, Howard County Police Department, 3410 Court House Dr., Ellicott City, Md., 21043.