

# ATLANTIC COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

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**Theodore F. L. Housel**  
Prosecutor

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## NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release  
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2 Page(s)

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**MAYS LANDING** – An Absecon woman who lost control of her vehicle June 3, 2008 at the Absecon ShopRite and struck three pedestrians, two of whom were in wheelchairs, was sentenced to 364 days in the Atlantic County Justice Facility and five years of probation, Atlantic County Prosecutor Ted Housel stated.

Sharon Eberwine entered a guilty plea March 10, to one count of third-degree Assault by Auto, two counts of fourth-degree Assault by Auto and one count of Driving While Under the Influence. During the plea hearing she admitted she drank several apple martinis, drove to the food store and lost control of her vehicle. She told the Court she attempted to hit a line of shopping carts but hit the pedestrians. Eberwine, who has no prior record, also told the judge that her Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) was a .13. The legal limit is .08.

On Friday Superior Court Judge Albert Garofolo sentenced Eberwine to 5 years probation on her guilty pleas to 3 counts of vehicular assault. As a condition of probation, the defendant must serve time in county jail. Judge Garofolo refused her attorney's request that the county jail term be served in some alternative fashion, such as day reporting, weekends or on the bracelet house arrest program. Judge Garofolo further directed that, while on probation, Eberwine must receive drug and alcohol counseling and be subject to random drug testing, according to Chief Assistant Prosecutor James McClain.

In addition, Judge Garofolo suspended Eberwine's driver's license for a period of two years as a result of her convictions for vehicular assault and for a related charge of Driving While Under the Influence and \$500 in fines.

Eberwine was taken into custody immediately after sentencing.

**Anyone with information involving serious crimes is asked to call the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office at 609-909-7800 or go to the Prosecutor's Office Web site at <http://www.acpo.org/tips.html> and provide information by filling out the form anonymously on the Submit a Tip page. People can also call Crime Stoppers at 609-652-1234 or 1-800-658-8477 (TIPS). Crime Stoppers offers cash rewards for information leading to the arrest and indictment of those who commit crimes in Atlantic County.**