

Motorist charged in death of Clayton moped rider

A Gloucester County man was killed yesterday morning when the moped he was riding was struck from behind by a sleep-deprived driver, authorities said.

Edward R. Hoffman, 51, of Clayton, was sent flying into a telephone pole on Route 47 in Clayton. He was pronounced dead at the scene shortly before 11 a.m., said Bernie Weisenfeld, spokesman for the Gloucester County Prosecutor's Office.

Abraha M. Ruty, 22, of Newark, was charged with second-degree vehicular homicide under Maggie's Law, a four-year-old provision that makes it a criminal act to drive while sleep-deprived.

Ruty, who was being held last night at the Gloucester County jail pending bail, was also charged with reckless driving and failure to have his vehicle inspected, Weisenfeld said. - **Sam Wood**

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