



# **"Bicycling Swerving"**

## **Update from the Police Department**



Due to recent complaints about the phenomena known as “swerving”, (bicyclists intentionally riding into the paths of vehicles) we felt the need to address this issue in the interest of public safety.

The Hulmeville Borough Police Department (HPD) routinely receives complaints of bicyclists engaging in this behavior upon numerous streets in town. The riders are juveniles from the borough and at times from surrounding jurisdictions. If you wish to report an incident of “swerving”, please contact the HPD directly at 215-757-1700, or Lower Bucks County dispatch at 215-942-3900. As always call 911 in the event of an emergency.

Our officers have been instructed to aggressively enforce these violations when reported or observed. Anyone seen riding a bike inappropriately will be addressed, their parents will be contacted, and the juvenile will be cited.

We are sending this message asking parents to speak with their children and advise them that this behavior is unacceptable and must stop. If you witness your child, or a neighbor or friends child riding in such a manner, we implore you to address the potential consequences of their actions. It is our sincere hope that we can eliminate this problem through education as opposed to enforcement. If not, we will have no choice but to strictly enforce the bicycle laws when these actions are observed.

### **A friendly reminder of some laws, in general, that may be applicable:**

§3510:a-1-2 *Pedal cycle helmets for certain persons.* Operating a bicycle by a person under age 12 without a helmet.

§3501:a *Applicability of traffic laws to pedal cycles.* Every person riding a pedal cycle upon a roadway shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle

§3505:a *Riding on roadways and pedal cycle paths.* Every person operating a pedal cycle upon a highway shall obey the applicable rules of the roadway

§3507:a *Lamps and other equipment on pedal cycles.* Every pedal cycle when in use between sunset and sunrise shall be equipped on the front with a lamp which emits a beam of white light intended to illuminate the pedal cycle operator's path and visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front

**These citations will result in municipal court appearances for the offender as well as a parent/guardian.**