

ACTIVITY: Spearfishing
CASE: [GSAF 2009.05.06](#)
DATE: Wednesday May 6, 2009
LOCATION: Exuma, Bahamas

NAME: Luis Hernandez
DESCRIPTION: He is a 48-year-old male from Deerfield Beach, Broward County, Florida.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Waxing Gibbous, 93% of the Moon was illuminated. Full Moon, May 9, 2009.



Luis Hernandez

NARRATIVE: Luis Hernandez had just speared a grouper when he spotted the shark. “The first thing I thought was, 'Wow, nice shark!' So I swam a little closer and thought about spearing it, but decided to let it go. I just poked it so it would get out of my way.” But the shark lunged at him, sinking its teeth into his arm.

“It felt like a torpedo hit my body, and it pulled me out of the water and the next thing I saw was the face of the shark right next to my face. And I tried to fight him, I'm gonna say for about 30 seconds, and finally got him off my arm. And I injured my other hand trying to open his jaw,” he said.

INJURY: His right forearm was bitten.

FIRST AID: His wife, Marlene Hernandez, lifted the anchor and pulled her husband out of the waters once the shark let go. She then crafted a tourniquet and got the boat back to land.

TREATMENT: Hernandez was airlifted from the area to Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami where he underwent multiple surgeries to repair the damage to his arm.

SPECIES: The incident involved a bull shark about seven feet in length.

SOURCES: <http://cbsr.com/local/shark.attack.victim.2.1011130.htm>
<http://www.miamiherald.com/2009/05/16/1051600/bull-shark-attacks-deerfield-beach.html>
http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/1776442/ husband_saved_during_shark_attack_by.html

NOTE: This was a provoked incident; the shark bit the diver only after he poked it with his spear.