

ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: [GSAF 2010.01.22.b](#)

DATE: Saturday January 22, 2010

LOCATION: The accident took place in the Arabian Gulf at Umm Suqeim Beach, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

NAME: Michael Geraghty

DESCRIPTION: He is a 54-year-old male from Australia.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: First Quarter, January 23, 2010.

ENVIRONMENT: The UAE is a federation of seven emirates situated in the southeast of the Arabian Peninsula. The seven emirates are Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm al-Quwain, Ras al-Khaimah, Fujairah and Dubai. The Emirate of Dubai extends along the gulf coast, and Dubai Municipality is its largest city. Umm Sugeim is a public beach in Dubai Municipality. There was debris or construction material in the water when the incident took place.

TIME: Evening

NARRATIVE: Michael Geraghty had just ridden a one-metre wave and was getting back on his board. "I felt something yank me from the board," he said. "When I looked around I could see there was a lot of blood but I didn't feel anything at first. I assumed I'd caught my leg on some floating debris or junk."



Photo by Amy Leang

Michael Geraghty

INJURY: The surfer sustained a laceration across the ball of his foot.

TREATMENT: The injury was treated at Rashid Hospital's emergency department, where a doctor told the surfer he had been bitten by a shark. "The doctor said it was definitely a bite and you can see the [teeth]marks," said the surfer.

SPECIES: According to Jonathon Ali Khan, founder of research project Shark Quest Arabia, "because the injury was not serious, it's unlikely to have been one of the more dangerous types even though they are typically more aggressive. It's possible it was a baby or one of the local species, like a blacktip, just being curious and having a taste."

SOURCE: 9News, January 28, 2010,

<http://news.ninemsn.com.au/world/1004912/aussie-bitten-by-shark-in-dubai>
et al

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Christofer Eksander, Global Shark Accident File