

**ACTIVITY:** Body boarding

**CASE:** GSAF 2011.09.19

**DATE:** Monday September 19, 2011

**LOCATION:** The attack took place in the Indian Ocean off Boucan Canot beach, Saint Gilles, Reunion Island.

**NAME:** Mathieu Schiller

**DESCRIPTION:** He was a 32-year-old male, a former champion body boarder, a former lifeguard, and the head of a surf school.



*Mathieu Schiller*

### **BACKGROUND**

**MOON PHASE:** Waning Gibbous, 62% of the Moon was illuminated Full Moon, September 12, 2011.

**SEA CONDITIONS:** It was the tail end of the surf season at Boucan Canot. There'd been a month of solid swell, and though the wave heights were finally beginning to decline, it was still a big day at a surf break renowned for its powerful waves, and negotiating the set took Schiller a little farther out to sea than the normal lineup.

**ENVIRONMENT:** According to local police, a red flag was present at the time of the accident, warning bathers to stay out of the water.

**DISTANCE FROM SHORE:** 20 metres

**TIME:** 15h30



*Surfers float flowers on the waves in memory of Mathieu Schiller*

**NARRATIVE:** Mathieu Schiller was in the water with six other surfers when he burst up out of the sea. The shark stood him up, his legs were in its mouth. As he beat at the shark's snout with the blunt end of his boogie board, another shark leapt from the water and bit into his torso. Then the momentum of the sharks carried man and sharks back down into the water. Surfers managed to put his body back on his board, but a wave swept it off. Rescuers searched the area with boats, jet-skis and a helicopter, but his body was not recovered.

**INJURY:** Fatal

**SPECIES:** Not identified

**SOURCES:** Zinfos, September 19, 2011, [http://www.zinfos974.com/Entre-colere-et-tristesse-apres-la-nouvelle-attaque-de-requin\\_a32287.html](http://www.zinfos974.com/Entre-colere-et-tristesse-apres-la-nouvelle-attaque-de-requin_a32287.html)

Clicanoo, September 21, 2011, <http://www.clicanoo.re/11-actualites/16-faits-divers/297267-le-corps-de-mathieu-schiller.html>

Paris Match, <http://www.parismatch.com/Actu/Societe/Nouvelle-attaque-de-requin-a-La-Reunion-la-quatrieme-en-2011-150983>