

ACTIVITY: Wading

CASE: [GSAF 1997.08.02.a](#)

DATE: Saturday August 2, 1997

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean at New Smyrna Beach, Volusia County, Florida, USA.
29°N, 81°W

NAME: Matthew Perny

DESCRIPTION: He is a 19-year-old male from Maitland.

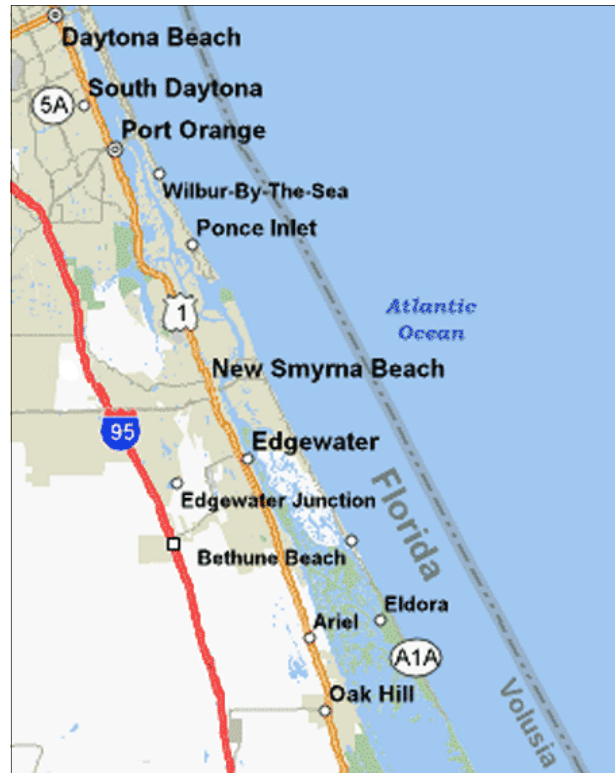
BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Waning Crescent, 1% of the Moon's visible disk was illuminated. New Moon, August 3, 1997.

DEPTH OF WATER: Waist-deep

TIME: 09h15

NARRATIVE: Matthew Perny had been surfing near the 2200 block of South Atlantic Avenue and was wading in when his foot was bitten by a small shark.



INJURY: There was a 2.5-inch laceration/avulsion on the dorsal surface of his left foot.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: Volusia County Beach Safety EMS dressed the wound. Perny refused transport and drove to Bert Fish Medical Center in New Smyrna Beach where he was treated and released.

SPECIES INVOLVED: Not identified. "They are juvenile sharks. They're not good hunters and they get disoriented in the surf," said Joe Wooden, Volusia County deputy beach chief. "They tend to snap at anything."

SOURCE: Derek Catron, Orlando Sentinel, August 4, 1997, page B3

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Captain Scott Petersohn