



ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: GSAF 1998.09.14

DATE: Monday September 14, 1998

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean at Stuart Beach, Martin County, Florida, USA.

NAME: Danny Hoopes

DESCRIPTION: He is a 28-year-old male from Jensen Beach.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Third Quarter, September 12, 1998

ENVIRONMENT: Last weekend, Boardwalk and Waveland beaches on South Hutchinson Island were shut down when sharks were sighted. Besides sharks, the abundant bait fish also lured porpoises and 50-pound tarpons close to shore. Lifeguards started flying red flags near Stuart Beach, cautioning visitors that there were sharks in the water.

NARRATIVE: Danny Hoopes was paddling to catch a wave when he was bitten by the shark. Martin County lifeguard Mike Holliday said he heard Hoopes screaming for help, but he did not see any sharks.

INJURY: The surfer sustained multiple gashes on his right foot. "(The shark) opened him up pretty good. His tendons were exposed," said Holliday, who tended to Hoopes' injuries before the surfer was taken to the emergency room by fellow surfer Steve Marks.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: He underwent surgery at Martin Memorial Hospital South on Monday evening and was kept overnight for observation.

SPECIES: The incident involved a 1.8 metre [six-foot] shark.

SOURCE: Priyanka Sheth, Fort Pierce Tribune, September 15, 1998

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