

ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: [GSAF 2000.03.24](#)

DATE: Friday March 24, 2000

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

NAME: Barry Pasonski

DESCRIPTION: He was a 37-year-old male from Indiatlantic. He had been surfing for 24 years and was the owner of a surf shop.



BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Waning Gibbous, 81% of the moon's visible disk was illuminated. New Moon, April 4, 2000.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 200 yards

TIME: 14h00

NARRATIVE: Pasonski and 32-year-old Trip Freeman of Melbourne were surfing together. "I was paddling next to him when I heard a loud thump and saw a lot of splashing. Freeman, a surfing instructor and former lifeguard, brought Pasonski to the beach.

INJURY: His left hand was bitten twice by the shark.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: Freeman drove Pasonski to Holmes Regional Medical Center where the injured surfer underwent surgery to repair a nicked tendon in his hand. He also received numerous stitches in the hand.

SPECIES INVOLVED: Unknown. Freeman estimated the shark was about 1.2 metres [four feet] in length.

SOURCE: Orlando Sentinel, March 25, 2000, page D3