

ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: [GSAF 2007.08.19.b](#)

DATE: Sunday August 19, 2007

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean, opposite the 3900 block of South Ocean Avenue at New Smyrna Beach, Volusia County, Florida, USA.

29°N, 81°W

NAME: Anonymous

DESCRIPTION: He is a 16-year-old male, 5'6" tall and weighs 140 pounds. He was wearing black board shorts and a grey long-sleeve rash guard.

SURFBOARD: White fibreglass surfboard

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: There were scattered clouds and visibility was 10 miles. The air temperature was 92°F, humidity 66%, sea level pressure was 30.17 inches and wind direction was ENE at 11.5 mph.

MOON PHASE: First Quarter, August 20, 2007

SEA CONDITIONS: The water temperature was 84°F and wave height was two to four feet. The incident took place in the shore break and the sea was turbid. The tide was incoming; the incident took place about 60 minutes before mean high tide.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 25 yards.

DEPTH OF WATER: Two to three feet.

TIME: 12h39

NARRATIVE: The surfer had been in the water 30 minutes. Two people were within 10 feet of him, 10 were within 10 to 50 feet, and about 50 people were about 50 feet from him. He was standing on his board, riding a wave when the shark came partially out of the water, making a sudden, single strike. The surfer struck the shark with his hand and it released his foot. After biting the surfer, the shark was seen leaving the immediate area.

INJURY: The teen sustained four to five inch-long lacerations and avulsions to the lateral right foot. No pre-op photos of the injury were taken by the beach patrol.

TREATMENT: The surfer's injuries were treated at Bert Fish Medical Center.

SPECIES: Not identified. The teen saw the shark briefly and said it was four to five feet in length.

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Captain Scott Petersohn

