



ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: [GSAF 2008.08.27](#)

DATE: Wednesday August 27, 2008

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean near the jetties at Ponce de Leon Inlet, New Smyrna Beach, Volusia County, Florida, USA.

NAME: Alexander Zgura

DESCRIPTION: He is a 26-year-old male from Edgewater. He is 6' tall, weighs 160 pounds, and was wearing white board shorts and a blue leash.

SURFBOARD: A 6' white Firewire trifin



Alexander Zgura

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 10h47, New Smyrna Beach recorded partly cloudy skies and visibility of 10 miles [16.1 km]. The air temperature was 84.2°F [29°C], dew point 75.2°F [24°C], humidity 74%, sea level pressure 29.94 inches [1013.8 hPa], and wind direction was WSW at 6.9 mph [11.1 km/h].

MOON PHASE: Waning Crescent, 10% of the Moon was illuminated. New Moon, August 30, 2008.

SEA CONDITIONS: The sea surface temperature was 79°F, waves were one to two feet and semi-choppy, the current was heading North, and the water was murky. Tides at Daytona Beach Shores, Sunglow Pier: mean low tide 11h22, high tide at 18h57. (Tides in New Smyrna Beach vary by minutes.)

ENVIRONMENT: The Beach Patrol officer said there is currently a "large mullet run" taking place near the inlet, which means lots of bait fish in the area, and there was fishing activity on the jetty. That, combined with somewhat murky water, may have contributed to the encounter.

DISTANCE FROM JETTY: 250 yards south of the jetty at Ponce de Leon Inlet

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 100 yards

DEPTH OF WATER: >12 feet

TIME: Just before 11h00

NARRATIVE: Approximately 200 people were in the water. About 50 people were within 30 to 15 feet of Alexander Zgura, and 20 or so were within 10 feet of him. He had been in the water for three hours and was facing seaward when the shark approached from the sea and beneath him. "I was sitting on my board, waiting for a wave when the shark came up and bit

me three times,” said the surfer. “I pulled my leg out of its mouth and paddled in.”

INJURY: Beach Patrol Officer Scott Wise said Zgura appeared to suffer two bites between the knee and ankle causing about 13 to 15 separate lacerations, which would likely require stitches.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: The surfer was treated on the beach but declined ambulance transport to Bert Fish Medical Center in New Smyrna Beach, saying he would go there by private transport.

SPECIES: According to the surfer, the shark was about six feet in length.

SOURCE: Daytona Beach News Journal, August 27, 2008,
<http://www.news-journalonline.com/NewsJournalOnline/breakingnews/shark082708.htm>

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Captain Scott Petersohn