

ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: GSAF 2012.03.14.b

DATE: Wednesday March 14, 2012

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

NAME: Sydney Levy

DESCRIPTION: She is a 15-year-old female from New Smyrna Beach.



BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 15h47, New Smyrna Beach recorded scattered clouds and 10-mile visibility. The air temperature was 77°F, dew point 60.8°F, humidity 57%, sea level pressure 30.23 inches, and wind direction was ENE at 8.1 mph.

MOON PHASE: Waning Gibbous, 51% of the Moon was illuminated. Last Quarter, March 14, 2012.

SEA CONDITIONS: Onshore breezes were creating textured/bumpy to semi-choppy conditions. The surf was three to four feet and clean. The sea surface temperature at 12h57 was 67° to 69°F. Mean high tide at 13h59.

DEPTH OF WATER: Waist-deep

TIME: 16h00 (accounts vary: one says 15h00, most say 16h00). The girl was bitten minutes after another surfer, Nick Romano, was bitten on his calf by a shark.

NARRATIVE: Sydney and her mother were longboarding about a half-mile south of the jetty at Ponce Inlet when a shark pulled her under the water. She surfaced and the shark grabbed her board leash. Sydney's mother grabbed her by the shoulders and pulled her onto her board. Two nearby surfers helped the pair to the beach.

INJURY: Lacerations to the right ankle and foot.

TREATMENT: Officials said the girl was taken by ambulance to Bert Fish Medical Center in New Smyrna Beach where her injury was repaired and she was discharged.

SPECIES: Not identified. The shark was said to be about 4 or 5 feet in length.

SOURCES: Daytona Beach News Journal, March 14, 2012

WFTV.com, March 14, 2012

News 13, March 14, 2012

WTSP.com, March 15, 2012, <http://www.wtsp.com/news/article/244845/19/Shark-Attack-Mother-watches-as-shark-pulls-daughter-under-water>