



ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: [GSAF 2012.09.06.a](#)

DATE: Thursday September 6, 2012

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean near E. Street, St. Augustine Beach, St. Johns County, Florida, USA.

NAME: Andrew Birchall

DESCRIPTION: He is a 37-year-old male, a realtor.



Andrew Birchall

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Waning Gibbous, 63% of the Moon was illuminated. Last Quarter, September 8, 2012.

SEA CONDITIONS: The long period swell from Tropical Storm Leslie that first reached the beaches on late Monday has been luring more surfers than usual to the beach. The nice swells will be with the First Coast through at least Sunday, according to chief meteorologist Tim Deegan. Although the swell is not all that large, with it having a period of 15 seconds it will continue to make for great surfing but also for dangerous rip currents.

ENVIRONMENT: St. Augustine Beach is located on Anastasia Island, just east of the city of St. Augustine.

DEPTH OF WATER: Waist-deep

TIME: 11h30

NARRATIVE: Birchall has just finished riding a wave and jumped off his surfboard when a shark bit his foot. He was able to rip his foot out of its mouth because the water was shallow enough for him to brace himself. A friend who was surfing with him as well as a couple of other surfers helped him out of the water.

INJURY: Lacerations to the dorsum of the foot and toes, and a semi-circle of teeth marks to

the sole of the left foot.

TREATMENT: St. Johns County Fire Rescue paramedics took the patient to Flagler Hospital, where he underwent several hours of surgery to repair some torn tendons.

SPECIES: Not identified, but it was reported that a tooth fragment was recovered from the patient's foot.

SOURCES: St. Johns County Sheriff's Office

Action News Jax,

<http://www.actionnewsjax.com/content/topstories/story/Shark-bites-surfer-at-St-Augustine-Beach/oq7dpnJCMkWOv0J3Qhem6Q.csp>

First Coast News,

<http://www.firstcoastnews.com/topstories/article/272260/483/Shark-possibly-bites-St-Augustine-Beach-surfer>

Sheldon Gardner, St. Augustine Record,

<http://staugustine.com/news/local>