

ACTIVITY: Drowning

CASE: [GSAF 2013.07.22](#)

DATE: Monday July 22, 2013

LOCATION: The attack took place in the Atlantic Ocean at Boa Viagem Beach in Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil.

NAME: Bruna Silva Gobbi

DESCRIPTION: She was an 18-year-old female from São Paulo.



BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 13h00, Recife recorded partly cloudy skies and 6.2 mile visibility. The air temperature was 80.6°F, dew point 64.4°F, humidity 58%, sea level pressure was 29.92 inches (falling rapidly from a high of 30.00 inches at 09h00), and wind direction was SSE at 11.5 mph.

MOON PHASE: Full Moon

ENVIRONMENT: The Fire Department had informed the family they were in a hazardous area, but the family refused to leave the sea. The fire fighters monitored the group from their observation post and came to their aid quickly when the attack occurred.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 45 metres

DEPTH OF WATER: "Shallow"

TIME: 13h20

NARRATIVE: Bruna was visiting Recife for the first time. She arrived July 18 and was due to return home on July 24. She was on the beach with her mother, grandmother, cousins who live in Olinda and a cousin, Daniele Souza Gobbi, who was at sea with her, but was not attacked. "We knew there were risks of attack, but I did not think it would be so in the shallows," said Daniele. The two entered the water and became caught in a rip current. Firefighters went to their rescue but moments before they reached them, Bruna was bitten by a shark.

INJURY: Fatal. The girl sustained severe lacerations to left leg and lost most of her blood volume while in the water. She was taken in a military police vehicle to a UPA (Emergency Unit) in Imbiribeira. While being transported from Imbiribeira to HR (Restoration Hospital, Recife's trauma center), she suffered cardiac arrest but was resuscitated. At the hospital, her leg was amputated above the knee at 15h00. Afterwards she was placed in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) where she was on ventilator and given vasoactive drugs.

Vascular surgeon HR Cláudia Maria Albuquerque said when the patient arrived at the hospital she was in extremely serious condition. "We made all measures of support and she was taken to the operating room for evaluation. Injury presented in the limb was very extensive. Muscle and bone tissue were lost. She lost a very large amount of blood in a very short period of time and suffered several cardiac arrests." The girl died at 23h30 in Restoration Hospital. She was buried at Escada, the birthplace of her maternal grandmother.

SPECIES: It was thought the attack involved a bull shark.