



**ACTIVITY:** Spearfishing

**CASE:** [GSAF 2013.07.29.c](#)

**DATE:** Monday July 29, 2013

**LOCATION:** The incident took place at Scotland Cay, Abaco Islands, Bahamas.

26°38'31.0"N, 77°4'3.9"W

**NAME:** Erik Norrie

**DESCRIPTION:** He is a 40-year-old male, a resident of Largo, Florida, and avid spearfisherman.

**SUPPORT BOAT:** A 31 foot vessel

#### **BACKGROUND**

**MOON PHASE:** Last Quarter, July 29, 2013.

**DEPTH OF WATER:** Five feet

**TIME:** 16h05

**NARRATIVE:** Erik Norrie had just speared a grouper and was swimming back to a boat when a shark grabbed his leg. "I felt this shark grab my leg and the ripping sound and when I turned around the water was filled with blood. It looked like a *Jaws* movie," said Norrie. He has encountered sharks before and said, "Generally, if you see them coming



you hit them away, but this time I didn't even see him," said Norrie.

**INJURY:** His lower left leg was bitten.

**FIRST AID:** Norrie said he was able to make a quick tourniquet around his leg to stem the bleeding.

**TREATMENT:** The patient was taken to a local clinic and later flown to Palm Beach International Airport. Palm Beach County Fire Rescue transported the patient to St. Mary's Medical Center for treatment.

**SPECIES:** Not identified. According to the spearfisherman, the shark was about six feet in length.

**SOURCES:** Stef DiPietrantonio, FOX 13 News, August 5, 2013,  
<http://www.myfoxtampabay.com/story/23051054/2013/08/05/faith-remains-strong-for-shark-bite-survivor>

Timothy Roberts, The Abaconian, August 8, 2013,  
<http://www.theabaconian.com/2013/08/08/shark-biting-incidents-injure-three/>