

ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: GSAF 2013.08.11

DATE: Sunday, August 11, 2013

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean at Folly Beach, South Carolina.

NAME: Tyson Royston

DESCRIPTION: He is a 10-year-old male from Myrtle Beach.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 17h56, Charleston recorded scattered clouds and 10 mile visibility. The air temperature was 91°F, dew point, 75.9°F, humidity 61%, sea level pressure 30.06 inches, and wind direction was SSW at 11.5 mph.

MOON PHASE: Waxing crescent, 22% of the Moon was illuminated.

TIME: 17h30

NARRATIVE: Tyson was participating in the Governor's Cup of Surfing, a two-day competition at The Washout on Folly Beach's northern end, when the shark became tangled in his surfboard leash. "A shark got tangled in my leash and pulled me back and pulled me under, and I reached down and grabbed my leash and swam in," said Tyson. His surfboard "tombstoned," lingo referring to when a board turns perpendicular to the ocean surface and pops skyward out of the water. Two other surfers helped Tyson to shore as five lifeguards also came to his aid. The remainder of the contest was postponed and people were cleared from the water.

INJURY: The boy was shaken but unhurt, and his surfboard later floated to shore.

SPECIES: The incident involved an eight-foot bull shark.

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Clay Creswell, GSAF

