



ACTIVITY: Standing

CASE: [GSAF 2015.05.29.b](#)

DATE: Friday May 29, 2015

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean behind the International Palms Resort and Conference Center near Lori Wilson Park in Cocoa Beach, Brevard County, Florida, USA.

28°20'00.81"N, 80°36'21.20"W

NAME: Ashlyn Gilpin

DESCRIPTION: A 14-year-old female from Ohio.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 14h58, KCOF airport reported scattered clouds and 10-mile visibility. The air temperature was 83.8°F, heat index 88.3°F, dew point 70.3°F, humidity 64%, sea level pressure 30.12 inches (falling), and wind direction was ENE at 13.8 mph.

By 15h58, KCOF recorded clear skies and 10-mile visibility. The air temperature was 84.7°F, heat index 88.2°F, dew point 68.5°F, humidity 58%, sea level pressure 30.09 inches (falling) and wind direction was ENE at 13.8 mph.

MOON PHASE: Waxing Gibbous, 84% of the Moon was illuminated. Full Moon, June 2, 2015.



Ashlyn Gilpin

ENVIRONMENT: “The water was pretty murky and there were seaweeds everywhere,” said Gilpin.

DEPTH OF WATER: Waist-deep

TIME: Reports vary: 15h00 or 15h30

NARRATIVE: Ashlyn Gilpin was with a group of children and adult chaperones. She had been in the water for about 30 minutes and was jumping in the waves with her friends. “I felt a sharp pain like a dagger in my foot,” she said. “I looked down and my jaw just dropped. It shook me once and half of another time then released. It’s snout brushed up against my shin when it went away.” “I was pretty sure that it was a shark, but wasn’t 100 percent sure so I didn’t want to say it was and then it not be.”

Gilpin credits the TV show Shark Week as the main reason why it was not worse. “I watch the show every year,” she said. “They say sharks jaws are like steel and once they bite you they will not release until they are ready so it’s best not to try and fight it. Gilpin knew what happened but didn’t want to alarm her friends. She calmly told them she had just been bit by something and they needed to get out of the water. As her friends Austin Logan, Hannah Duffy, Kendra Todd and Peyton Smith helped her to shore as chaperone for the group ran for help.

INJURY: Although the deep lacerations to the left foot were serious, the injury was not life-threatening.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: Another beachgoer ran to the Lori Wilson lifeguard station to notify them of the incident. Several people called 911 to report it as well. Lifeguards helped the patient to the beach parking lot. From there she was taken to Cape Canaveral Hospital and underwent surgery at 20h00. She remained in the hospital for two days.

SPECIES: Not identified and the teen did not see the shark, and by the time lifeguards appeared the fish was gone.

SOURCES: News 13, May 29, 2015 http://www.mynews13.com/content/news/cfnews13/news/article.html/content/news/articles/cfn/2015/5/29/shark_bite_new_smyrna_beach.html

Orlando Sentinel, May 29, 2015, <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/breaking-news/os-shark-bite-new-smyrna-beach-20150529-story.html>

Hancock Journal Pilot, June 24, 2015, http://www.journalpilot.com/news/article_9f041d38-1a88-11e5-bc14-3bf5c1617790.html