



Lucas Vertullo

ACTIVITY:

CASE: [GSAF 2015.06.07](#)

DATE: Sunday June 7, 2015

LOCATION: The incident took place at Lori Wilson Park, Cocoa Beach, Brevard County, Florida, USA.

NAME: Lucas Vertullo

DESCRIPTION: He is an 11-year-old male from Winter Springs.

BACKGROUND:

WEATHER: At 10h58, KCOF Cocoa Beach recorded clear skies and 10-mile visibility. The air temperature was 83.8°F, heat index 88.9°F, dew point 71.4°F, humidity 66%, sea level pressure 30.04 inches, and wind direction was ENE at 8.1 mph.

MOON PHASE: Waning Gibbous, 72% of the Moon was illuminated. Last Quarter, June 9, 2015.

SEA CONDITIONS: The sea surface temperature was 82°F, wave height was one to two feet and there was a small easterly swell.

ENVIRONMENT: “My daughter and I were way out on a surfboard and two big waves came in. On the second big wave, we saw what looked to be a juvenile bull shark,” said Stephanie Yelenosky. “About 15 seconds later we saw a group of people in knee-high water and we heard screaming, so we knew that the shark probably had gotten confused or scared and took a bite at somebody.”

DISTANCE FROM SHORE:

DEPTH OF WATER: Waist-deep

TIME: 10h50

NARRATIVE: No details. A Brevard County Ocean Beach lifeguard spotted the child thrashing in the water and saw blood. The lifeguard immediately went into the water and pulled the boy back to shore. Lifeguards immediately waved people out of the ocean for an hour as a precaution.

INJURY: Severe laceration to right calf. Ocean Rescue team reported that “It was definitely one of the worst ones that we’ve seen in our area that we’ve responded to, mainly because of the size of the bite.”

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: The boy was carried to the beach by an Ocean Rescue lifeguard, then placed in a waiting ambulance and taken to Cape Canaveral Hospital. Because of the severity of the bite, he was airlifted to Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children and Women in Orlando for further treatment.

SPECIES: Thought to involve a small bull shark

SOURCES: Florida Today, June 7, 2015,
<http://www.floridatoday.com/story/news/local/2015/06/07/shark-bite-cocoa-beach/28643443/>
Orlando Sentinel, June 7, 2015
<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/breaking-news/os-boy-bitten-shark-cocoa-beach-20150607-story.html>
WFTV, June 8, 2015, www.wftv.com/news/news/local/young-boy-severely-injured-cocoa-beach-shark-bite-/nmYPj/