



ACTIVITY: Treading water

CASE: [GSAF 2015.07.08](#)

DATE: Wednesday July 8, 2015

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean at Huntington Beach, Orange County, California, USA.

NAME: Eugene Finney

DESCRIPTION: A 39-year-old male from Fitchburg, the Marketing Coordinator at the Fitchburg Art Museum.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: The sky was clear.

MOON PHASE: Waning Gibbous, 51% of the Moon was illuminated.

SEA CONDITIONS: "The surf was pretty big that day," said Finney "The waves were about 7 to 9 feet."

ENVIRONMENT: For the past several months surfers have reported sightings of white sharks to the Shark Research Institute and the Global Shark Attack File, but none report physical contact between sharks and humans. Most sightings were in the Surfside and Sunset Beach where experts believe a group of juveniles have been feeding on stingrays. The juvenile white have been spotted breaching from the water off Surfside. Shark fins had been seen by lifeguards and swimmers were being taken from the water at the same time the incident took place.

DEPTH OF WATER: +20 feet

NARRATIVE: Eugene Finney reported that the sand bars were crowded with swimmers and surfers. He was in the water with Temple, his 10-year-old daughter. As they dived into a cresting waves, he had his arms around his daughter to brace her against the strong current.



Eugene Finney holds a newspaper clipping from July 9, the day after his incident at Huntington Beach.

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They were underwater, about 20 feet down, when Finney felt something slam into his back. "Harder than I've ever been hit in my life," he said.

INJURY: When Finney and his daughter surfaced, she daughter noticed the long gash on his back. Doctors later determined that Finney's chest and back pain was the result of "interior bruising of the thoracic cavity, due to blunt-force trauma."

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: Finney rinsed off his wound in a beach shower, Days later when the pain increased he went to St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Brighton where doctors determined doctors determined that Finney's chest and back pain was the result of "interior bruising of the thoracic cavity, due to blunt-force trauma." They also discovered a Stage 1 tumor on his kidney. "If they hadn't made this incidental find, I wouldn't have known until it was too late," Finney said. He believes the shark had saved his life. "It could have bitten me," he said, "but it nudged me just enough. I could have ended up with cancer metastasizing all over my stomach area, and you don't come back from that." Dr. Ingolf Tuerk, an oncologist, was able to remove the tumor and as of October 3, 2015, Finney was 100 percent cancer-free.

SPECIES: While it may be that the injury resulted from contact with a shark since there was considerable shark activity in the immediate area, there is a possibility that it was caused by contact with the seafloor or a submerged object.

SOURCE: Burgess, aburgess@sentinelandenterprise.com, October4, 2015
http://www.sentinelandenterprise.com/news/ci_28919564/fitchburg-mans-encounter-shark-helps-him-bite-back

ReformaInternacional
<http://www.letribunaldunet.fr/sante/attaque-de-requin-cancer.html>



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