



ACTIVITY: Lobster Fishing

CASE: GSAF 2015.12.11

DATE: Friday December 11, 2015

LOCATION: 67 nautical miles southwest of Andros Island, Bahamas.

NAME: Richard Pinder

DESCRIPTION: A 26-year-old male from Spanish Wells, Eleuthera.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: New Moon, December 11, 2015

ENVIRONMENT: After the Bahamaian sponge fishery was largely wiped out by disease in the late 1930s, lobsters became the cash crop, but by 2010 one out of every 10 Androsians had left the island in search of work elsewhere. By 2015, illegal harvesting of undersized crawfish by regular day fishermen and poachers was threatening to do irreparable damage to the marine environment. According to Bahamas Commercial Fishers Alliance's (BCFA) their annual fisheries exports were valued at around \$70 million, but close to one-third of that amount was being lost to poachers.

NARRATIVE: Richard Pinder didn't realize he'd been bitten until he saw blood. He managed to make his way to the boat where his boat partner pulled him up over the side and took him to the main vessel. His father, who was aboard *Water Spout*, a 76-foot trawler nearby, called the Coast Guard in Miami for help.



INJURY: Injuries to right thigh, the right side of his abdomen and left hand.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: The U.S. Coast Guard's 7th District Command Center in Miami was notified via a satellite phone call made by another man aboard the boat. The Coast Guard immediately ordered one of their helicopter crews stationed at their Atlantic Underwater Test and Evaluation Center on Andros Island to go to the fishing vessel's location and render any assistance they may need. On Friday afternoon, the injured man was airlifted by a Coast Guard helicopter to Doctors Hospital in Nassau. Later that night he was flown by air ambulance to Jackson Memorial Trauma Center in Miami for further treatment.

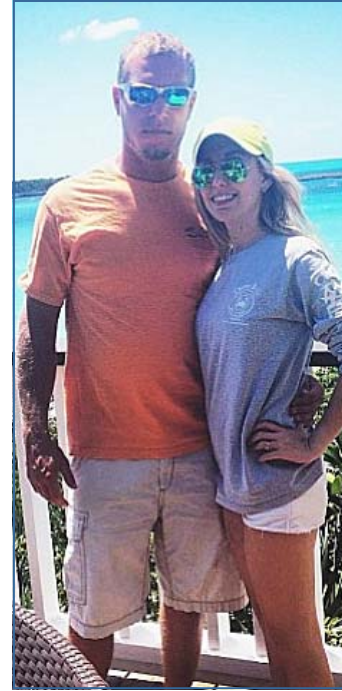
SPECIES: Bull shark. "Teeth marks were found on the boat's engine," said Ashley Pinder. "We believe the shark attacked the propeller first and then headed straight for Richard."

SOURCES: Tribune 242, December 11, 2015
<http://www.tribune242.com/news/2015/dec/11/bahamian-lobster-fisherman-bitten-bull-shark-andro/>

CBS Miami, December 11, 2015
<http://miami.cbslocal.com/2015/12/11/coast-guard-called-to-assist-man-bitten-by-shark-in-bahamas/>

Nassau Guardian, December 12, 2015

Tribune242, December 17, 2015
<http://www.tribune242.com/news/2015/dec/17/family-just-happy-fisherman-alive-after-shark-atta/?news>



*Richard Pinder
and his wife, Ashley*