

**ACTIVITY:** Body Boarding

**CASE:** [GSAF 2016.09.04](#)

**DATE:** Sunday September 4, 2016

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean off Mary McLeod Bethune Beach Park, New Smyrna Beach, Volusia County, Florida, USA.

*28°57'04.24"N, 80°50'17.26"W*

**NAME:** Austin Moore

**DESCRIPTION:** A nine-year-old male from Neptune.

### **BACKGROUND**

**WEATHER:** The highest winds of tropical storm Hermine had shifted farther offshore on September 4 as the system moved, but the sea was still turbulent. At 12h47, New Smyrna Beach Municipal Airport recorded 10-mile visibility and scattered clouds. The air temperature was 84.2°F, heat index 94.1°F, dew point 77°F, humidity 79%, sea level pressure 30.12 inches and wind direction was ENE at 9.2 mph.

**MOON PHASE:** Waxing Crescent, 10% of the Moon was illuminated. New Moon, September 1, 2016.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Mary McLeod Bethune Beach Park (6656 S. Atlantic Avenue, New Smyrna Beach) is nestled on six acres between the Indian River and the Atlantic Ocean, 24.3 miles south of Daytona Beach and 8.4 miles south of Bert Fish Medical Center in New Smyrna Beach.

**DISTANCE FROM SHORE:** 200 feet

**DEPTH OF WATER:** Four feet (chest-deep)

**TIME:** 12h30

**NARRATIVE:** Austin Moore was vacationing with his family. He was on a sandbank, wading with his black board when he felt something grab him. "I thought It was my uncle trying to scare [me] and I turned around and was surprised not to see anyone, and saw blood in the water," Austin said. He began screaming and started wading to his parents, Shauna and Adam Moore, who were on the beach. Austin say he still loves sharks — just not the one that bit him.

**INJURY:** The patient sustained a large gash on his shin that went down to the bone and a series of tooth marks on the lateral right ankle and foot, four of which penetrated about an inch deep into the foot.

**TREATMENT:** The patient was rushed to Halifax Health in in Daytona Beach, where he underwent two hours of surgery to repair two tendons.

**SPECIES:** Tooth marks on the patient's ankle and foot appear to have been made by a small shark.



*Austin Moore*

*Photo by Deanna Bettineschi, Action News Jax*

**SOURCES:** Deanna Bettineschi, Action News Jax, September 7, 2016  
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Crystal Hayes, Orlando Sentinel, September 7, 2016  
<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/breaking-news/os-shark-bite-volusia-county-20160907-story.html>

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