



**MARTIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
ROBERT L. CROWDER, SHERIFF**

February 3, 2010—At approximately 4:50 p.m. today Detectives with the Martin County Sheriff's Office responded to Martin Memorial Medical Center regarding the report of a death involving a shark bite at Stuart beach.

A Martin County Fire Rescue Lifeguard stated to Detectives that at approximately 4:00 p.m. he observed thru his binoculars a kite-board surfer that appeared to be in distress. He stated he entered the water and traveled approximately one-quarter mile offshore to assist the victim who reported that he had been bitten by a shark. Martin County Fire Rescue transported the victim to Martin Memorial Medical Center with an apparent shark bite wound. The Office of the Medical Examiner will determine the exact cause of death.

The victim has been identified as:
Stephen Howard Schafer
DOB: 10/24/71
164 NE Edgewater Drive, #2102
Stuart, Florida

No further information is available at this time.

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Rhonda Irons
Media Relations
Martin County Sheriff's Office
772 320-4736
www.sheriff.martin.fl.us