



**U.S. COAST GUARD  
WITNESS / INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT FORM**



Witness Name: RYAN GREGORY Sims (Please Print Clearly) Employer Name: Truth Aquatics  
 Street Address: [REDACTED] Employer Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Position: Galley J License/Doc. # \_\_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned, make the following statement voluntarily, without threat, duress or promise of reward:

All asleep. Heard someone yell "Fire". Possibly Captain or second galley. When awoken at wheelhouse, couldn't get door open for fire extinguisher. Heard "get off the boat". Jumped out of a window. Hit deck and broke leg. Opened dive gate. Mikey or Milton in water. Told him to jump. Swam away with Mikey. Saw skiff launched, being paddled. Swam to skiff. Was pulled aboard. Captain, Milton, Kullen, and Mikey on board. Took to GRACE (SCAPE. Had to knock and shout. Heard that owner had brain aid laid on side on boat due to pain. Shaking with cold but did not want to be moved. Responders arrived and took vitals. Captain & Mikey left on skiff to look for passengers

HEARD A "POP" downstairs, maybe galley. Galley all electrical for heating. Remembered plugging in cell phone at night and seeing sparks.

Dictated during interview with CWO3 Andrew Schmitt at St. Johns Hospital. 02 SEPTEMBER 2019 at 1329

I have read my statement as documented above (and, if applicable, on continuation pages), and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true and correct.

[REDACTED]  
SIGNATURE

02 September 2019  
DATE