



U.S. COAST GUARD
WITNESS / INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT FORM



Witness Name: Michael Francis Kohls (Please Print Clearly)
 Street Address: _____ Employer Name: Truth Aquatics
 City/State/Zip: _____ Employer Address: _____
 Phone No: _____ City/State/Zip: Santa Barbara, CA
 Position: Crewmember Phone No: _____
M/V Conception License/Doc. # _____

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

I was in my bunk room asleep, when I heard what sounded like a chair moving. I laid in bed for about 5 minutes when I decided to investigate after hearing a scream. I came out of my room and tried to enter the galley which was completely engulfed in flames. I called out "FIRE" to everyone on board. I had to jump over the side railings to reach the galley, because flames had surrounded the wheelhouse. During us trying to get toward the passenger berthing Ryan broke his leg. We could not reach any of the passengers (who were cut off to us on the other side of the galley. We (the crew) tried to break open the window on the bow of the boat but the smoke and heat were too intense. I helped Ryan into the water, and proceeded to swim away since the entire boat was in flames. When I came out of my room, I first tried to use the stairs to go down below, but they were also on fire so ~~we~~ I decided to jump over the side railings.

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]

SIGNATURE

02SEP19

DATE

Page ___ of ___

I took I transcribed this statement on behalf of Michael Francis Kohls. [Redacted] MST3 USCG