



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

Witness Name: JERRY BOYKAN (Please Print Clearly) Employer Name: TEETH AQUATICS
 Street Address: [REDACTED] Employer Address: 301 W. CARPICO
 City/State/Zip: [REDACTED] City/State/Zip: SANTA BARBARA
 Phone No: N/A Phone No: [REDACTED]
 Position: MASTER License/Doc. # [REDACTED]

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

I WAS AWAKENED BY CREW, FIRE WAS AT
AFT END OF UPPER DECK, I OPENED BOTH
SIDE DOORS, SMOKE FILLED WHEELHOUSE. I
TOLD CREW TO GO OUT SIDE DOORS, I GOT
ONE CALL TO COAST GUARD. I HAD TO
LEAVE. I JUMPED OUT STB WING STATION INTO
WATER ~~BE~~ FLAMES WERE COMING UP
TO SIDE DOORS, IT TOOK AWHILE FOR
ME TO REACH STERN OF BOAT, INFLATABLE WAS
IN WATER I THINK CULLEN WAS IN IT,
SOMEONE HELPED ME UP SWIMSTEP, 2 CREW
MIKEY AND RYAN WERE IN WATER AWHAS FROM
BOAT. MILTON, CULLEN + I WENT TO GET
MIKEY + RYAN. WHEN IN WATER I COULD SEE
ENTIRE INSIDE OF GALLEY, FLAMES COMING OUT
ALL WINDOWS. WHEN I WAS HELPED UP ON
SWIMSTEP, ENTIRE AFT END OF HOUSE WAS ON
FIRE

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.

SIGNATURE [REDACTED]

DATE 9/2/19



U.S. COAST GUARD
WITNESS / INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT FORM



(Please Print Clearly)

Witness Name: Culhens Molitor Employer Name: Truth Aquatics
 Street Address: [REDACTED] Employer Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: [REDACTED] City/State/Zip: _____
 Phone No: [REDACTED] Phone No: _____
 Position: Second Captain License/Doc. # _____

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

I was woken up by the second Galley operator, Mikey, who alerted the crew to a fire on deck. As I pulled back the curtain, I noticed an orange glow and as I exited my bunk I turned to look aft and saw flames around the sun deck. With no other options available, myself and several other crew members exited the wheelhouse through the wing stations. After I lowered myself to the main deck, I was able to see the extent of the fire which fully engulfed the galley house. I opened the dive gate on the bow of the boat in order to facilitate an easier evacuation as Milton tried his best to open the forward galley window. During this time, captain Jerry had remained in the wheelhouse in order to attempt hailing the Coast Guard with a Mayday radio broadcast. As the smoke became too much in the wheelhouse, Jerry exited through the starboard wingstation directly to the water below. At the time, it appeared Jerry had been on fire as smoke followed his body to the water with this in mind, I jumped the rail intending to assist Jerry. At this point the catwalk

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

9-2-2019

DATE



U.S. COAST GUARD
WITNESS / INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT FORM



(Please Print Clearly)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Witness Name: <u>Cullen Molitor</u> | Employer Name: <u>Truth Aquatics</u> |
| Street Address: [REDACTED] | Employer Address: _____ |
| City/State/Zip: [REDACTED] | City/State/Zip: _____ |
| Phone No: [REDACTED] | Phone No: _____ |
| Position: <u>Second Captain</u> | License/Doc. # _____ |

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

around the galley was impossible, with flames billowing out, and the rest of the crew abandoned ship as well. After noting that Jerry was okay, I swam to the stern and climbed aboard via the swimstep. My goal then became to release the skiff to assist with search efforts. The power was still on and I was able to raise the winch, release the chain securing the boat, and finally to lower the swimstep with the skiff. Once in the water I proceeded to board the skiff and lower the motor and start the engine. Milton cut the lines attaching the bow and stern of the skiff to the swimstep. While I was lowering and boarding the skiff, Milton opened the engine room hatch in hopes of beginning firefighting. The heat of the flames and the color of smoke were too much and Milton decided to join me on the skiff. As I was assisting Jerry aboard, Milton ~~attempted to~~ took control of the skiff. With Jerry aboard, we attempted to drive away but discovered we were still attached via sternline to the Conception. Milton jumped back aboard to cut the line away.

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

9-2-2019
DATE



U.S. COAST GUARD
WITNESS / INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT FORM



(Please Print Clearly)

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Witness Name: <u>Cullen Molitor</u> | Employer Name: <u>Truth Aquatics</u> |
| Street Address: [REDACTED] | Employer Address: _____ |
| City/State/Zip: [REDACTED] | City/State/Zip: _____ |
| Phone No: [REDACTED] | Phone No: _____ |
| Position: <u>Second Captain</u> | License/Doc. # _____ |

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

With the darkness it was hard to see but a line got caught in the prop and stalled the motor. As Milton worked on the motor Jerry and I began paddling away to pick up Ryan who had broken his leg in the jump to escape the wheelhouse. On route to Ryan, Milton got the motor running and we picked up Ryan and Mikey. We then proceeded to the nearest anchored vessel to ask assistance and to use the radio to call the Coastguard. After dropping off Ryan ~~and~~^{and} Mikey, and Jerry, Milton and myself grabbed a flashlight and headed back to look for survivors. During this time, several small explosions were heard from the Conception. No survivors were found.

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

9-2-2014

DATE



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

(Please Print Clearly)

Witness Name: Miltan French Employer Name: _____
 Street Address: _____ Employer Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____ City/State/Zip: _____
 Phone No: _____ Phone No: _____
 Position: Deckhand License/Doc. #: _____

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

I woke up to Mikey yelling "Fire". Got out of my bunk, headed aft, and saw the glow of flames near the stairs. I grabbed my glasses from my bunk and saw the flames over the aft stbd rail of the sundeck and the crew heading forward through the wheelhouse. Jerry told us to get down from the wing stations. I went off the Port station landing on the lower deck. Mike Ryan and Callen were there, Ryan on the ground w/ broken leg. I tried to gain access to the galley through the forward window but it was latched. Both side passages to the stern were blocked by Pke. I couldn't open or bust any windows I could get to so I tried calling for Jerry to give me the side Aft but the wheelhouse was blocked out with smoke as well. Just then Jerry jumped from the stbd wing to the water. Callen went in after him. Mikey helped me get Ryan off the port side then he jumped for. I went over after looking for any other way into the galley but couldn't get in. I swam to the stern where Callen was launching the skiff and climbed back aboard. There were flames coming out of the entire galley entrance and along both sides. Flames reached the ER hatch. We cut the skiff loose, got Jerry in. I went back up to try to look for any other openings as Jerry called to abandon ship, then we drove over to get Mikey + Ryan. * I looked into the ER and found it full of smoke, couldn't get to the fire pump.

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.

SIGNATURE

9-1-19
DATE



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



Witness Name: Bryan 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 [REDACTED] 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



U.S. COAST GUARD
WITNESS / INVESTIGATOR STATEMENT FORM



Witness Name: Michael Francis Kohls (Please Print Clearly) Employer Name: Truth Aquatics
 Street Address: _____ Employer Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____ City/State/Zip: Santa Barbara, CA
 Phone No: _____ Phone No: _____
 Position: Crewmember, 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]

02SEP19

SIGNATURE

DATE

Page ___ of ___

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