

Roger McVeigh

The World Open Water Swimming Association

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I write this testimonial at the request of Diana Nyad for submission to your organization.

I consider myself fortunate to have witnessed Diana's swim from Cuba to Key West in August/September of 2013. I have had some limited experience in competitive swimming in my youth as well as open water swimming in connection with The Swim Around Key West and with many endurance triathlon events.

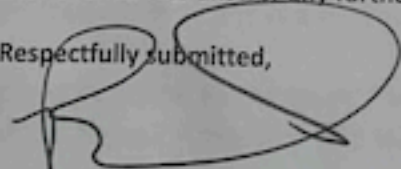
Ironically, I did not know Diana before this endeavor, but was fortunate enough to meet her several months earlier at a party held in her honor that I attended at the invitation of a mutual acquaintance. Because of a late scheduling conflict with her independent observer, she invited me to accompany the group as a replacement independent observer the morning of the group's scheduled departure to Havana from Key West by sailboat (Thursday, August 29, 2013).

Another independent observer, Janet Hinkle, and I took turns in shifts watching Diana's progress from the side of the *Voyager* from the moment she entered the water in Cuba on Saturday morning, August 31, 2013 through her arrival on the beach in Key West on Monday, September 2, 2013.

While observing Diana swim over those 53 hours during my shifts, I never witnessed Diana receiving any assistance from any equipment, any boat or any person in her effort to tread water or make progress in her swim.

I am available to answer any further questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,


Roger McVeigh

10/8/2018