

## Indianapolis cop busted for attempted murder of girlfriend

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### 2015 Cop domestic violence Justin Beaton

Indianapolis cops busted a fellow officer on attempted murder charges after he loaded a gun with blanks, pointed it at the mother of his child and pulled the trigger, authorities said.

The gunpowder blast knocked out three of the girlfriend's teeth, fractured her nose and broke her jaw, police said. Investigators discovered a trail of blood stretching between the cop's patrol car and the couple's apartment.

Justin Beaton, a 9-year veteran, originally told detectives he was moving a bed frame on Aug. 30, 2014 and it slipped through a glass door and socked his girlfriend in the face, according to court documents.

Medical workers and the detectives were suspicious, but the wounded woman backed him up, authorities said.

She recently recanted and told police Beaton blasted her through a glass door, and then ordered her to tell cops a phony story as he drove her to the hospital.

"I had the cigarette to my mouth and I looked up at the glass door and the barrel of the gun was there," the woman told cops, according to court documents cited by ABC 6. "And then the next thing I know I had, like, a real odd ringing in my ear, and I couldn't hear, and I fell backwards and I turned myself, like, into the house so I didn't hit the ground.

"I looked up at him and my hands were like this, and I was bleeding and I said, 'You just shot me.'"

The woman claims Beaton started drinking about noon and later bought a new pistol at a gun show. He was showing it off when he loaded the blanks and fired, she said.

Investigators had trouble speaking to the woman when they first met her at the hospital, because she'd swallowed so much glass from the door, authorities said.

Beaton was arrested Friday on charges of attempted murder, domestic battery and obstruction of justice.

The veteran cop, handcuffed and dressed in an orange jail jumpsuit, was led into Marion County Superior Court on Monday, the Indianapolis Star reported.

His attorney called the incident a "tragic accident" while asking a judge to reduce bail from \$300,000.



“Officer Beaton is not a risk to anyone,” defense lawyer Jack Crawford said, the Indianapolis Star reported. “Once the evidence is introduced in this case, everyone will know that the injuries suffered by this young woman are a result of a tragic accident and were not intended by officer Beaton in any way.”

Beaton was previously investigated in a 2014 police brutality case after he and another officer were reportedly filmed kicking a man on the ground and zapping him with stun guns.

*Indianapolis Metropolitan  
Police Department  
Indianapolis police officer  
Justin Beaton faces  
attempted murder charges  
after he allegedly loaded a  
pistol with blanks and blasted  
his girlfriend in the face in  
2014.*