

It is my honor to nominate Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Officer Gregory Milburn for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual TOP COPS Awards.

Officer Milburn is a thirteen year veteran of IMPD. He and his wife, Jennifer, have two children. Emily is sixteen, and Atticus is thirteen. They have FOUR Great Danes, which they have partially acquired as rescues. Officer Milburn attended Vincennes University prior to joining IMPD.

Officer Milburn has worked the entirety of his career in the same district, an area known as "Brightwood", which is on the near northeast side of the city. This is an area which historically has had a higher crime rate. The population density of this area is nearly two times the average for the city overall, but the median income is over \$15,000 less annually, ([www.city-data.com](http://www.city-data.com)). This area of the city became increasingly dangerous during the spring and summer of 2014. On May 30<sup>th</sup>, Officer Gregory Milburn was shot in the line of duty. Subsequently, IMPD Officer Perry Renn was killed in the line of duty on July 5<sup>th</sup>.

On May 30, 2014 at approximately 7:10 AM, Officer Milburn responded to an incomplete 911 call to 2622 N. Dearborn Street. The female caller had been screaming for help during the call, and the dispatcher heard "loud slamming" after the plea for help. Then, there was only silence. It was later determined the "loud slamming" noise was actually gunshots.

Officer Milburn was the first officer to arrive on the scene, and arrived within sixty seconds of the call. He walked up to the house and observed a person exiting. Upon seeing Officer Milburn, the person stopped and appeared to be re-entering the house. Officer Milburn called to the person to stay outside. The subject, armed with a semi-automatic handgun, then immediately turned toward Officer Milburn and opened fire on him. Officer Milburn was struck with a round in the lower right abdomen.

Despite suffering a close range gunshot wound, Officer Milburn quickly drew his weapon, located cover, and returned fire. During this time, Officer Milburn notified responding officers of the description of the suspect, set up a perimeter, and guided responding officers to areas of cover. Despite being wounded, Officer Milburn maintained his position covering the front of the house until assisting officers demanded he relinquish his position and get medical attention.

Responding officers located the shooter lying mortally wounded on the ground near where the encounter occurred. When the scene was secured, investigators responded and learned the deceased shooter, Quintico Goolsby, had killed two women inside the home just prior to Officer Milburn arriving on the scene. The "loud slamming" noise heard on the 911 call was actually the fatal gunshots being fired by Goolsby. Killed in the incident were 84 year old Julia Morrow, and her 30 year old granddaughter, Inity Morrow. It was later learned Goolsby had previously had an intimate relationship with Inity Morrow, which she had recently ended.

Officer Milburn was transported to the hospital for treatment of his wound. He was diagnosed with a severe open abrasion and bruised internal organs. Fortunately, his ballistics vest saved him from more serious injuries. Nevertheless, Officer Milburn is *still* recovering from his wound. He has numbness and tingling surrounding the entry wound, and the wound itself is still healing and scarring. It is likely nerve endings in his skin were damaged and will not fully recover from the trauma. Despite the protection of his vest, the bullet was still able to enter deeply into Officer Milburn's skin resulting in a serious open wound.

After the incident, Officer Milburn was lauded by both the department and neighborhood organizations for his dedication to duty, bravery, and professionalism. Residents of Brightwood noted seeing Officer Milburn routinely patrolling their neighborhoods and alleys. He has been described as "the best of the best". In addition to being thanked by community groups, Officer Milburn received the Medal of Bravery and Purple Heart medals from the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department.

Officer Gregory Milburn certainly is "the best of the best". When he arrived at the scene of this incident on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014, he was literally ambushed by a murderer. Quintico Goolsby had just shot and killed two women, and was caught leaving the scene of the attack by Officer Milburn. Goolsby did not comply or acquiesce. Instead, he immediately turned on Officer Milburn and began shooting at him. Officer Milburn, although struck in his abdomen by one of the shots, was able to return fire, direct responding officers, coordinate and secure the scene, locate cover, and focus on overall safety. Even when adequate help arrived, Officer Milburn was reluctant to leave his fellow officers.

It is truly hard to synopsise a critical event such as this. Black print on white paper does not really allow for capture of the emotions and dynamics of such a situation. Officer Milburn faced down a homicidal subject focused on escape AT ANY COST. The cost included attempting to kill a police officer. While it cannot be known what might have happened had Quintico Goolsby escaped, it can likely be surmised there would not have been a peaceful ending, and others might have suffered injury or death. I believe Officer Milburn truly exemplifies "grace under fire" in this incident, specifically. He quickly responded to the scene, encountered a deadly situation, and reacted tactically and according to his training.

I know the TOP COPS Awards are for a specific event or occurrence. Yet, I can also further support Officer Milburn as an ideal candidate for this award due to his overall work ethic and dedication to duty. Officer Milburn has worked in the same area his whole career. While many officers become "burnt out" and overwhelmed with the pressures and dangers of a busy beat, Officer Milburn has continued to "stay the course". He has also been selected as a Field Training Officer, which allows him to help prepare new officers for their law enforcement careers. He has established himself in his district and is known by the residents there. This is

definitely a testimony to his diligence and policing skills. Officer Milburn cares for the citizens he serves, and like all officers, willingly puts his life on the line defending and protecting them. This was never more clearly demonstrated than on May 30, 2014.

Again, it is my honor and privilege to nominate Officer Greg Milburn for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Top Cops Awards. I am equally blessed and honored to serve with him, and believe he is an ideal candidate, and would-be recipient, of this esteemed award.

Respectfully,

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\*\*\*I have enclosed a few articles related to this incident. Other information can be gathered from our Public Information Office at (317) 327-3424, Sgt. Kendale Adams. There was a lot of media coverage. If I were more adept at the technological aspects, I could likely download them and send them to you. Also, if needed, I can likely get a copy of the 911 call.

#### Local Media Outlets

[www.fox59.com](http://www.fox59.com)

[www.indystar.com](http://www.indystar.com)

[www.wishtv.com](http://www.wishtv.com)

[www.theindychannel.com](http://www.theindychannel.com)

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