

# Former Shawnee police officer faces felony charges after investigation

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## Former Shawnee police officer and his wife face felony charges after investigation

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SHAWNEE, Okla. (KOKH) — A former Shawnee police officer of eight years and his wife are now facing felony charges following an investigation.

Documents filed at the Pottawatomie County Courthouse show Jacob and Taylor Blazer are facing the same charges:

- False reporting of a crime
- Arson
- Endangering Human Life during Arson
- Conspiracy to commit a felony

This all dates back to July of 2023, which is when a fire happened at the Blazer's home.

According to the documents, a witness claimed that leading up to the fire, the Blazers were short on money. They had \$20,000-\$30,000 in plumbing issues at their house, and they took out a second mortgage on their home for their tanning business.

Court documents say the couple set their house on fire, hoping insurance claims would be high enough to get by.

Insurance gave them \$110,000, which investigators discovered upset Taylor after reading through a witness's text messages.

Taylor texted a witness: "I'm crying over it. Having anxiety about it."

The witness replied: "Are y'all still not going to do you know what? Now that they've deposited the money I wouldn't."

That's when Taylor admitted she wanted to light her house on fire again.

Taylor: "We are fighting it. We still want to. I was hoping your brother would."

A couple of months later, former officer Blazer told police his home was vandalized. Though documents say he previously admitted to a witness that he wanted to make the house look like it was trashed.

That witness told investigators that Jacob and Taylor had moved stuff around their home, even spray-painting swear words on the walls. The witness said they told her, "See. They will think it was homeless people."

The Shawnee Police Department shared the following statement with Fox 25:

On July 13, 2023, Jacob Blazer was placed on administrative leave. All of his police powers were removed, and police equipment turned in. The City of Shawnee Police Department (SPD) received information of criminal activity and took decisive action for the safety of our citizens. SPD immediately requested that the Pottawatomie County Sheriff's Office conduct a criminal investigation with the information received. SPD also opened an internal investigation secondary to the criminal investigation.

The Pottawatomie County Sheriff's Office and the District Attorney's Investigators conducted an investigation. This investigation resulted in felony charges being filed and Blazer being arrested on February 1, 2024

Jacob Blazer was immediately terminated from his employment with the Shawnee Police Department. Blazer's behavior was not in line with the integrity, professionalism, or code of ethics of the Shawnee Police Department. The Shawnee Police Department strives to set the highest standards for its police officers.

Fox 25 reached out to the Pottawatomie County Sheriff's Office and District Attorney Adam Panter, but we didn't hear back.

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