

Bo Dietl: Cooper Union fired me for defending the police on TV

By Julia Marsh and Shawn Cohen

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Bo Dietl's security firm was fired by Cooper Union after comments he made on national television. [Getty Images](#); [Christopher Sadowski](#) (inset)

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then they unfairly fired the well-known private eye when he showed that no-nonsense attitude on television, a lawsuit claims.

Dietl says the liberal Manhattan college terminated his security contract in November 2014, after students called him a “racist” for defending police on Fox News during protests in Ferguson, Mo., according to the Manhattan civil suit.

“Just maybe the cop was right. Maybe he was getting beat up. We don’t know what happened,” he said in August 2014 on “Fox & Friends” while discussing the shooting by a police officer of Michael Brown.

“I don’t know how he [Brown] got hit in the head, but bullets go that way,” he said “He [the officer] was trying to stop this guy obviously.”

Dietl was hired in 2014 to tighten security at the school after students staged a monthlong sit-in in Cooper Union President Jamshed Bharucha’s office, the suit said.

The flamboyant lawman says the college called on his expertise to put an end to disruptive antics, such as when students flooded a four-story staircase with 2,100 pingpong balls to protest the college’s decision to charge tuition for the first time in 157 years.

Dietl claims that students were unhappy with him, and in September 2014, he was confronted by a group on campus that said, “We got you and your company thrown out of here” and “You are a racist.”

After hearing that, he talked to Cooper Union officials, who formally terminated his company a few months later.

Dietl is suing Cooper Union for \$110,000, according to papers filed in Manhattan Supreme Court on Wednesday by noted attorney Joseph Tacopina.

The security honcho, who has been active in conservative politics, says his employer was “well aware of his ubiquitous media presence and public expression of political and social views.”

The suit calls administrators hypocrites for firing Dietl for his beliefs while touting their institution as “a bastion of free speech and a witness to the flow of American history and ideas.”

A spokesman for Cooper Union said, “We do not comment on pending litigation.”