

# Orlando Sentinel

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## WOMAN'S TALE OF ABDUCTION, RAPE IS FULL OF HOLES, POLICE SAY

**PUBLISHED:** November 2, 1990 at 5:00 a.m. | **UPDATED:** July 27, 2021 at 8:20 p.m.

The story of rape and abduction told Wednesday by a 34-year-old woman crumbled on Thursday.

Orlando police said the woman, who has a history of prostitution arrests, lied about a half-dozen facts of the case, including her account that a companion was being held at gunpoint by the supposed assailant.

Thursday, she asked detectives to leave her home after they confronted her with the inconsistencies.

About 1 p.m. Wednesday, the woman ran naked out of the woods between Vineland Road and Interstate 4, screaming for help.

She told police that she and a friend, Sally Bennett, had had lunch at a restaurant on South Orange Blossom Trail and were hitchhiking on the interstate when a middle-aged man with gray hair picked them up.

She said they were going to the 33rd Street jail to visit Bennett's boyfriend, and the driver, who said his name was Ray, offered to take them. The woman told police that she was distracted by a traffic accident at the 33rd Street exit, and the driver hit her with a baseball bat.

The next thing she knew, she said, she awoke naked and saw the man preparing to rape her friend at gunpoint. The woman said she ran.

Sgt. Bob Beal said investigators checked the story and found that she had not had lunch at the restaurant she claimed and that she had lied about her address.

Detectives said the man she named as the prisoner they were going to visit was not in the county jail.

The woman's description of Bennett fits herself, down to the nail polish, said Investigator Barbara Bergin. Detectives believe Bennett does not exist.

**No traffic accident occurred at the 33rd Street exit near that time.**

**Although the manhunt Wednesday involved more than 20 patrolmen, six investigators, three horses, and a helicopter, it is not likely the woman will be prosecuted for giving the police false information, Beal said. That's because she didn't ask for police help and she refused to write statements about what happened to her.**

**She was treated at Orlando Regional Medical Center for a bump on the head.**

**"Something happened to her," Beal said. "We just don't know what it was."**

**<https://www.orlandosentinel.com/1990/11/02/womans-tale-of-abduction-rape-is-full-of-holes-police-say/>**