

Reward boosted in bombing

By ERIC FEHRNSTROM

Gov. William F. Weld has posted a \$10,000 reward for the capture of the person responsible for last year's bomb blast that killed a Boston police officer.

The money brings to \$65,000 the total amount available for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killer of Officer Jeremiah Hurley Jr.

The Boston Police Patrolman's Association asked Weld in January to use his statutory authority

Weld offers \$10G in killing of Hub officer

to offer a reward in the case, said Jim Barry, the union's lobbyist.

"We're glad they've finally acted to bring to justice a cop killer," said Barry.

The money will be paid directly out of the budget appropriation for the governor's office, said Public Safety Secretary Thomas Rapone.

"There were initially questions about how to proceed, but we are advised it

can be paid out of the governor's office line item," Rapone said.

Under a little-known law, the governor is empowered to offer a reward of up to \$10,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a person who assassinates a police officer.

Police suspect Thomas A. Shay, 20, of Quincy, of involvement in the Oct. 28, 1991, explosion in Roslindale, but

have yet to make an arrest.

Prior to Weld's action, the police union, the federal Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agency, and the Boston City Council offered rewards in the case totaling \$55,000.

Barry said the union knows from experience that rewards lead to crucial evidence that can make a case.

The last time the patrolman's association paid a

reward was in connection with the arrest and conviction of Ted Otsuki for the 1987 killing of Officer Roy Sergei.

In that case, the FBI cited the \$25,000 reward as the main reason James Burkhart turned against his friend Otsuki and provided information leading to his capture.

Burkhart also testified against Otsuki at his 1989 murder trial in Boston.