

Lawyer: Quincy man innocent in fatal bombing

By SHELLEY MURPHY

A Quincy man reportedly suspected of building a bomb that killed a Boston Police officer is "completely innocent" of any involvement in the tragedy, his lawyer said yesterday.

Alfred W. Trenkler, 36, who grew up in Milton, has not been charged in the Oct. 28 blast in Roslindale, but appeared in Boston Municipal Court yesterday on a charge that he defaulted in a Rhode Island case charging him with bouncing a \$1,300 check.

Trenkler was arrested Friday for default by Boston Police and federal Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents probing the blast that killed Boston Police Bomb Squad Officer Jeremiah J. Hurley Jr. and seriously wounded his partner, Officer Francis X. Foley.

Boston Municipal Court Judge Geraldine Lombardo ordered Trenkler to report to Warwick, R.I., within a week in the check case. He remains free after posting \$1,000 cash bail.

The fatal bombing was not mentioned to the judge, but in the hallway, as Trenkler stood nervously at his side, his attorney, Terry Segal, told reporters, "My client maintains he is completely innocent in



ALFRED W. TRENKLER
Charged in check scam

that matter, which was a terrible tragedy."

Hurley and Foley had responded to a call from Thomas L. Shay, who reported a suspicious box had fallen from beneath his car and was in his driveway at 39 Eastbourne St., Roslindale.

The box—a remote control device that contained two sticks of dynamite—exploded while being examined by the officers.

Investigators suspect Shay's son, Thomas A. Shay, 20, may have planned to kill his father, according to sources.

The younger Shay, who spent 15 years of his life in state institutions, has repeatedly denied involvement in the bombing.

Investigators began targeting Trenkler, an engineer with a degree from Wentworth Institute in Boston, after finding his name in the younger Shay's address book.

Trenkler was charged with building a remote control bomb that exploded under a Capeway Fish Co. truck in Quincy in 1986. No one was injured in that blast. Sources claim the case was continued without a finding after Trenkler cooperated in an unrelated case.

The bomb in the Quincy case is strikingly similar to the bomb that killed Hurley, according to sources. Both bombs were attached to vehicles with stereo speaker magnets.

The younger Shay hasn't been charged with the bombing, but was also in Boston Municipal Court yesterday for a hearing on whether he's competent to face charges of calling a false bomb threat to the Back Bay MBTA station in 1990 and prostitution.

Dr. David Rosengard told the court there's "no question" Shay is competent. Shay remains held on \$100,000 cash bail pending a probable cause hearing Monday.

His lawyer, William McPhee, had argued Shay has a history of psychiatric problems and is unable to aid in his own defense.

It was the younger Shay who first identified Trenkler, his friend, as a suspect in the bombing in a press release last month.

When asked yesterday if Shay was his friend, Trenkler said, "No," but declined further comment.

Trenkler, who builds satellites, is accused of bouncing a \$1,300 check to Rusco Steel, which provided steel for a microwave tower Trenkler was building in Warwick, R.I., Segal said.

"If we didn't pay it, we'll attempt to make good of it," Segal said.