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Wednesday, May 14, 2008

## '91 bombing convict gets added sentence

By Kim Ring TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF

**EAST BROOKFIELD**— A former Boston resident who served time for his role in a 1991 bombing that killed a Boston police officer pleaded guilty yesterday to drug charges and was sentenced to six months in the Worcester County Jail and House of Correction in West Boylston.

Thomas A. Shay, 35, whose address was listed in court documents as 53 Chestnut St., fourth floor, Spencer, was wanted on warrants in three cases, including two involving charges from Spencer. He was brought to the Western Worcester District Court in East Brookfield, where he faced 10 charges including possession of the prescription drug Klonopin, breaking into a depository, larceny of over \$250, distributing a Class C drug to a minor, and fireworks possession.

In a plea agreement brokered by Assistant District Attorney John F. Kennedy, Mr. Shay pleaded guilty to distribution of a Class C substance and was sentenced to serve six months after he completes any other sentences pending anywhere in the United States.

Mr. Shay also agreed there was evidence to warrant guilty findings on charges of possession of a Class C substance and fireworks, and failure to report an address change to the Registry of Motor Vehicles. Those charges were filed. The two counts of distributing a Class C substance to a minor were merged with a charge of distribution of a Class C substance.

He was given a concurrent six-month sentence for breaking into a depository and the larceny charges.

Mr. Shay was on the lam for nearly a year after the Spencer charges were brought in 2006. He was also wanted on warrants in Boston. He was apprehended last summer at his mother's home in Quincy.

He was convicted in the early 1990s of plotting with Alfred Trenkler to plant a homemade bomb under a car belonging to Mr. Shay's father in 1991. The device went off as bomb squad members were inspecting it. Officer Jeremiah Hurley was killed and Officer Francis Foley was seriously injured.

Mr. Trenkler was originally sentenced to life in prison, but was re-sentenced last year to 37 years behind bars.

Mr. Shay served 10 years and was on federally supervised probation, but was incarcerated again after violating his probation and has about 18 months remaining on his sentence, police said. He will serve the 6-month sentence after he completes the federal sentence. He is also slated to appear today in Roxbury Municipal Court on additional charges.



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