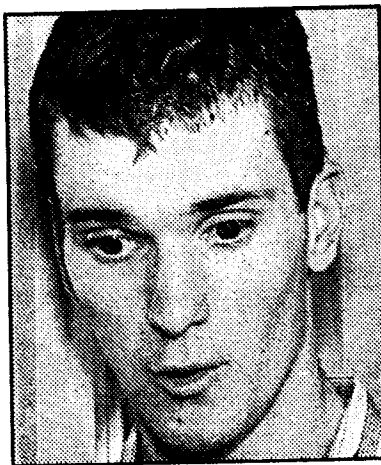


4/16/96

cc: D Beck

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**THOMAS A. SHAY**  
Serving life sentence

# Cop-killer said to have lying disorder

By RALPH RANALLI

Three years after convicted Roslindale cop-killer and bomber Thomas A. Shay was sentenced to life in prison, a psychiatrist once again testified yesterday that Shay suffers from "pseudologica fantastica," a disorder that makes him tell grandiose lies.

Dr. Robert Phillips was not allowed to tell the jury at the 1993 trial that he believes Shay suffers from a "panoply" of disorders, including having an extra chromosome and pseudologica, a rare disorder whose sufferers compulsively tell self-aggrandizing stories.

Phillips did testify at Shay's sentencing, but U.S. District Court Judge Rya W. Zobel said she did not give his

testimony great weight when sentencing him to 188 months in prison.

But last year, the First Circuit Court of Appeals ordered Zobel to review her own decision not to allow Phillips to testify. That decision was the focus of yesterday's hearing.

Phillips defended his diagnosis and the syndrome as legitimate when cross-examined by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul V. Kelly.

"I do believe it exists and I do believe he suffers from it," Phillips said.

Phillips said that pseudologica sufferers are different from most liars in that they do not lie for conscious gain, but because of a deep psychological need and that they also tell lies that can get them into trouble.

But when pressed, Phillips admitted that he did not check whether many of Shay's statements were actually true and that he was not better qualified than a judge or jurors to tell when someone is lying.

Kelly also suggested that "wrapping the term in Latin" would prejudice a jury and that scholarly articles about pseudologica describe it as a "somewhat nebulous concept."

Shay was convicted in July 1993 on two of three counts related to the death of Boston police Officer Jeremiah Hurley, who was killed when a bomb he was examining exploded in Shay's father's Roslindale driveway.

A friend of Shay's, Alfred Trenkler, was also found guilty in the bombing.

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## REGIONAL

NEWS IN BRIEF



### Driver faces charges after cruiser crash

A Shrewsbury man faces drunken-driving and other charges after a head-on collision with a police cruiser early yesterday morning, police said.

Joseph F. Azzarone, 52, was driving north on Park Avenue in Worcester about 2 a.m. when he nearly struck one patrol car headed south, swerved and struck another cruiser head-on, Deputy Chief Carlo Genatossio said.

Rescue crews had to pry open the squad car to free Officer John Vasser, who was treated for neck, back and hand injuries at University of Massachusetts Medical Center and later released. Azzarone also was injured in the crash. He was treated and released from St. Vincent's Hospital. Azzarone will be cited for speeding, driving under the influence and failure to keep to the right.



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