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McVeigh sighters want to testify

They wonder why they haven't been called before a grand jury

By The Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. — After a week of testimony, some potential witnesses wonder why they have not been called before a grand jury investigating allegations of a larger conspiracy in the Oklahoma City bombing.

Debbie Nakanashi says she saw Timothy McVeigh and another man walk into the post office near the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building two days before the April 19, 1995, bombing.

The second man, who resembled the John Doe No. 2 sketch circulated by authorities after the blast, asked for a government job application, Nakanashi told the Tulsa World for a story in Sunday's paper. She says she directed the man to the nearby federal building.

However, evidence in McVeigh's trial put the convicted bomber in Junction City, Kan., on April 17.

Nakanashi was not among the 10 witnesses called before the grand jury last week, although three of those witnesses who did appear have said they saw McVeigh in Oklahoma City with at least one other person on the morning of the bombing.

The panel has recessed until Aug. 11.

"I would sure like to know what is going on," Nakanashi said. "I'm sure some of the people could be succumbing to mass hysteria, but not all of them."

Reported sightings like Nakanashi's prompted state Rep. Charles Key and Glenn Wilburn, an Oklahoma City accountant who lost two grandsons in the bombing, to mount a petition drive that forced the grand jury investigation.

They believe a larger conspiracy than McVeigh and Terry Nichols plotted the Oklahoma City bombing.

And they contend that federal agents had prior knowledge of the attack.

Wilburn died on Tuesday of pancreatic cancer. The eulogy at his funeral on Thursday re-aired his allegations.

Federal authorities doubt a larger conspiracy and vehemently deny any prior knowledge. McVeigh was convicted of murder and conspiracy last month.

Nichols' trial is set for Sept. 29.