

OKC grand jury to hear more bombing conspiracy testimony

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — At least two witnesses were expected to testify before an Oklahoma County grand jury today as the panel resumed its investigation into allegations of a larger conspiracy in the federal building bombing.

Among those expected to testify was Germaine Johnson, who supporters of the conspiracy theory say saw convicted bomber Timothy McVeigh and a second suspect believed to be John Doe No. 2 moments after a bomb destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

Also expected to testify was Bruce Shaw, who was allegedly told by a federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agent shortly after the bombing that ATF agents were tipped off in advance and ordered not to go to their office in the Murrah building on the morning of the attack.

State Rep. Charles Key, R-Oklahoma City, helped spearhead the petition drive that resulted in the grand jury's convening last month.

He said he believes others besides McVeigh and Terry Nichols participated in the bombing that killed 168 people and injured more than 500. He also alleges that ATF had prior knowledge of the bombing plot.

Federal officials have said they doubt a larger conspiracy in the April 19, 1995, bombing and deny having advance knowledge of the attack.

McVeigh was convicted on federal murder and conspiracy charges and condemned to die in

June. Terry Nichols is scheduled to stand trial Sept. 29 on the same charges.

Ms. Johnson worked at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development office in the Murrah building. Key said that following the bombing, Ms. Johnson made her way out of the rubble and walked past a Mercury Marquis that Key says allegedly was identified as McVeigh's.

Key said Ms. Johnson walked into an alley and allegedly saw McVeigh and a second man that meets the description of John Doe No. 2, a person who federal authorities initially described as a suspect in the bombing but was never identified.

Key said Ms. Johnson recalls that the two men were looking at the Murrah building when

McVeigh asked her "was anybody killed" or "were many people killed."

Ms. Johnson has said she is "110 percent sure" the man she saw was McVeigh, according to Key.

Shaw arrived at the Murrah building shortly after the bombing to search for his wife, who worked in the Federal Credit Union, Key said. He encountered a man who identified himself as an ATF agent, and Shaw asked him to help him find his wife.

Key said the agent allegedly told Shaw there were no ATF agents in the building when the bombing occurred because they were tipped in advance and instructed not to go to their office.

Shaw's wife survived the bombing.