

## **McVeigh's Mother Says She's Being Watched - Mickey Hill Says That FBI Agents Follow Her to ATM, Stores But That She's Not Paranoid**

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Convicted Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh's mother says that if she were paranoid, she would not have allowed a recent television interview.

But she says since the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building on April 19, 1995, a variety of incidents have caused her to think she is being watched.

"My whole family is being watched, as we have been ever since my son . . . was arrested," Mickey Hill, 54, told the Daily Oklahoman in a copyright story.

Ms. Hill said she sees FBI agents following her when she uses an ATM machine or in stores. She said she thinks they are worried because they might have heard that somebody has threatened her life.

"I haven't been told that anybody threatened my life, but maybe somebody else told them."

Ms. Hill said she feels that she's a victim, too.

She openly discussed her three involuntary commitments to a Florida mental hospital and how she thought her personal papers would disappear from her previous residence. And she said she thinks her last boyfriend was an FBI plant.

Ms. Hill drew massive criticism from Oklahomans and others after her controversial interview with Tampa-St. Petersburg, Fla., television station WTSP. In that interview, she told the bombing victims that they should get on with their lives.

"It was a big event, yeah, but so was the O.J. Simpson case, so was the bombing in New York City," Ms. Hill told WTSP.

She said her personal papers would disappear when she lived in Fort Pierce, Fla.

Ms. Hill said a FBI agent told her she was paranoid when she mentioned the problem in 1995. But Ms. Hill said they stopped disappearing when she moved to Pensacola, Fla., in November 1998.

Ms. Hill said she quit her job as an aide for disabled students on school buses to move from Fort Pierce. She left behind her boyfriend of three years.

"I got a feeling he was set up there to get information from me," she said. "It could have been the FBI. . . . He was acting a little strange. I think he was a plant . . . I think he was putting me in danger."

Since the move, she went to court to take back her maiden name and has been working in a Japanese--Chinese restaurant. Ms. Hill helped serve food and wash dishes at the Salvation Army's Thanksgiving meal.

She vacillates about the seriousness of the crime her son is charged with, comparing it with a plane crash and saying it wasn't the crime of the century.

But then she'll contradict herself.

"How would you feel if it was your son charged with doing the worst terrorist act in the country?" Ms. Hill asked.

Timothy McVeigh, 31, is her only son. He is on death row at a federal prison in Terre Haute, Ind. The FBI considered her daughter, Jennifer McVeigh, 24, a suspect at first. Jennifer McVeigh was given immunity from prosecution for her testimony in the bombing trial, which was conducted in Denver.

Ms. Hill said she doesn't regret what she said in the television interview, but perhaps the way she said it.

"You can tell them I'm sorry I said it the way I did, because I did not mean it in any way to get them upset."

She said she just wants to be a normal, private person and has taken her own advice since her son's conviction in June 1997.

"He was found guilty," she said. "I had my cry, I went home and I got on with my life."

Memo: A shorter version of this story appeared in the third edition.