

Salinan not called to testify at Nichols' trial

McALESTER, Okla. — Salinan Kim Adams, who was expected to testify Friday for the defense in Terry Nichols' bombing trial in McAlester, wasn't called to the stand, after all.

Adams said Friday afternoon that defense attorneys decided they didn't need her testimony because they had other witnesses who could testify to similar facts.

Adams was a regional manager of Avis at Salina Municipal Airport in April 1995 when a pair of men came into the business to rent a minivan. One was Timothy McVeigh, who later was convicted in the April 19 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City.

Avis didn't have an available minivan. Later that same day, McVeigh rented a Ryder moving truck in Junction City. That truck was filled with fertilizer and used as a bomb that destroyed the Murrah building and killed 168 people.

Nichols, who lived for a short time in Herington, is on trial for 161 counts of first-degree murder.

Adams said Nichols' lawyers read a transcript of an interview in which she told an FBI agent about her encounter with McVeigh and another man, whom she couldn't identify. Adams, now an advertising sales representative for the Salina Journal, had been notified by mail that Nichols' defense wanted her to testify.