



U.S. Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms, and Explosives



U.S. Postal Inspection
Service



Scottsdale Police
Department



U.S. Attorney's Office
District of Arizona

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, June 26, 2009

Public Affairs
WYN HORNBUCKLE
Telephone: (602) 514-7573
Cell: (602) 740-2422

ILLINOIS BROTHERS INDICTED IN FEBRUARY 2004 PACKAGE BOMBING OF SCOTTSDALE DIVERSITY OFFICE

PHOENIX – United States Attorney Diane J. Humetewa joined federal and local law enforcement executives to announce the results of a multi-year investigation into the February 2004 package bombing at the Scottsdale Office of Diversity & Dialogue, which seriously injured two people. Two brothers were arrested early Thursday in Illinois by Agents of the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies. They face charges they conspired in the 2004 bombing.

“It is our hope that this indictment results in a long-awaited path to justice for the victims of this violent act of terror,” said Diane J. Humetewa, U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona. “The indictment of Dennis and Daniel Mahon represents the tireless dedication of law enforcement agencies who since February 26, 2004 never relented on solving this horrific crime and they are to be commended.”

On June 16, a federal grand jury in Phoenix returned a three-count indictment charging the two brothers, Dennis Mahon, 58, and Daniel Mahon, 58, both of Illinois. Each faces one felony count of Conspiracy to Damage Buildings and Property by Means of Explosive, related to the 2004 bombing. Dennis Mahon faces two additional counts of Malicious Damage of a Building by Means of Explosive, and Distribution of Information Related to Explosives.

“These arrests mark a significant advancement in this investigation and are a result of extraordinary teamwork demonstrated by the members of the Scottsdale Police Department, The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, U.S. Postal Inspectors and the U.S. Attorney's Office,” said Scottsdale Police Chief Alan Rodbell.

“There are few criminal acts as cowardly as a parcel bomb,” stated Acting Inspector in Charge Christopher White of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service's Phoenix Division. “The use of the mail to terrorize and inflict harm on unsuspecting citizens will not be tolerated. The diligent, joint investigation conducted by Postal Inspectors and our law enforcement partners has ensured that those responsible for the Scottsdale bombing will be brought to justice.”

MORE

“This investigation was about solving a heinous violent crime and about bringing to justice those responsible for that crime,” said Bill Newell, Special Agent in Charge of the ATF Phoenix Field Division. “It was also about the total dedication and doggedness of ATF agents to never give up until the crime was solved, the victims deserve nothing less.”

The indictment alleges that from roughly September 2003 to January 2009, in the District of Arizona and elsewhere, the Mahons conspired, among other acts, to deliver the bomb to the City of Scottsdale Office of Diversity and Dialogue in an effort to promote racial discord on behalf of the “White Aryan Resistance” (WAR). Among the overt acts alleged in the indictment, Dennis Mahon participated in the construction of a bomb, disguised in a cardboard box made to appear as a parcel package addressed to a victim in the Office of Diversity and Dialogue. The bomb exploded on February 26, 2004 when the same victim opened the box, injuring him and another person.

Among the other overt acts of the conspiracy detailed in the indictment, the Mahons taught the tactics of terrorism with the intent that others commit violent acts on behalf of WAR, including how to plan criminal activity and avoid law enforcement detection, and different methods to build bombs and blow up vehicles and houses with lethal force.

A conviction for Conspiracy to Damage Buildings and Property by Means of Explosive or for Malicious Damage of Building by Means of Explosive (Counts One and Two), each carry a maximum penalty of 40 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine or both. A conviction for Distribution of Information Related to Explosives (Count Three) carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine or both.

In determining an actual sentence, the judge will consult the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, and the Scottsdale Police Department. The prosecution is being handled by the U.S. Attorney’s Office, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-09-0712-PHX-DGC
RELEASE NUMBER: 2009-214(Mahon&Mahon)

###

For more information on the U.S. Attorney’s Office, District of Arizona, visit <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/az/>