

REPUTED DRUG ENFORCER CONVICTED OF MURDER

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Reputed A-Team enforcer **Dennis Franklin**, who himself was paralyzed in an assassination attempt, was convicted Friday by a Recorder's Court jury of second-degree murder for the 1984 machine-gun slaying of a drug underling.

The jury also convicted Franklin, 20, of three counts of assault and one of possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony. The jury spent 2 1/2 hours in deliberation after a three-day trial before Judge James Chylinski.

Franklin was charged with the November 1984 killing of Richard White, 18, outside White's home in the 600 block of Harmon. He also was charged with shooting at White's mother, Julia; brother, Clyde, and friend Rodney Beard in the incident.

Franklin faces a maximum penalty of life in prison, and will be sentenced March 25 by Chylinski.

A second man, Louis McClaine, faces trial April 21 in the killing.

Franklin was allowed to post a bond in August under a state law that allows bond if a case has not come to trial within six months.

Two weeks after his release on bond, Franklin was shot six times in the back as he sat on a bench at a W. Seven Mile car wash, in what investigators believe was part of the power struggles and revenge-seeking among gangs trying to capture shares of the area's narcotics trade.

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