

ACCUSED HIT MAN GETS 60 YEARS FOR DRUG KILLING

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Reputed Young Boys Inc. enforcer Dennis (Frank Nitti) Franklin, paralyzed in an assassination attempt last **year**, was sentenced Tuesday to **60** to 100 **years** in prison **for** the 1984 machine-gun slaying of an underling in a **drug** dispute.

Defense attorney W. Otis Culpepper asked Recorder's Court Judge James Chylinski to consider Franklin's permanent disability and not his reputation in sentencing him.

"Whatever Mr. Franklin may have done, his days of doing it are over," Culpepper said. "He's no longer a threat to society, and I ask the court to be human about it. What more can we, as a judicial community, do to Mr. Franklin?"

But Chylinski, noting that Franklin and a companion opened fired with Uzi machine-guns on a group of unarmed people, said Franklin showed a "total disregard" **for** others.

Franklin, who was wearing jeans in contrast to the high fashion suits he favored during the trial, bowed his head but showed no other reaction as deputies rolled his wheelchair from the courtroom.

FRANKLIN, 20, was convicted two weeks ago of second-degree murder **for** the November 1984 shooting of Richard White, 18, in front of White's home on the 600 block of Harmon.

Franklin also was convicted of three counts of assault **for** shooting at bystanders, and of using a firearm in the commission of a felony.

According to testimony, Franklin and Louis McClaine, who faces trial next month, sprayed the area with gunfire when White's older brother tried to stop Franklin from pistol- whipping White.

Witnesses testified that Franklin had **accused** the younger White of "messing with" money he owed Franklin from **drug** deals.

Investigators charge that Franklin was a member of the Young Boys Inc. "A-Team," the **drug** gang's strong-arm and **hit** squad that favored Uzis and other pistol-size machine guns to mete out punishment and maintain discipline.

Franklin -- whose nickname was taken from Al Capone's associate, Frank (the Enforcer) Nitti -- was paralyzed below the waist when two **men** ambushed him on a bench outside a west side car wash while he was free on bond.

CUTLINE

Chylinski

Caption: Photo 1981

Memo: SHORTER VERSION IN METRO FINAL EDITION PAGE 3A

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