

TIP TO TV SHOW LEADS TO ARREST - SHOOTINGS SUSPECT FACES DRUG CHARGES

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Saturday, December 9, 2006

Author: DAVID ASHENFELTER, FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER

Federal agents have arrested a 30-year-old Detroit man who allegedly tried **to** kill the leader of a rival drug gang across the street from Detroit police headquarters in 2003.

Police say Lamont Paris also is a suspect in the near-fatal shooting of a federal postal employee outside the downtown Detroit post office in April 2005 and in the fatal shooting of a Farmington Hills man in June 2004.

Paris, who was featured last month on the **TV show** "America's Most Wanted," was arrested without incident Thursday night at a house in Belleville, thanks **to a tip** received by the **show** .

He was charged Friday in a federal criminal complaint that accuses him of participating in a major drug trafficking conspiracy.

The most serious charge, conspiring **to** distribute more than 1,000 kilograms of marijuana, carries a maximum penalty of life in prison.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Mona Majzoub set a preliminary examination for Dec. 18.

He is **to** be arraigned today in 36th District Court in Detroit on multiple counts of attempted murder and possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony for the April 2003 attempt on the lives of Tommie Hodges and his girlfriend. The two were unharmed.

Court papers said Paris was an enforcer for the Quasand Lewis marijuana gang.

Authorities said Lewis and Hodges were partners for a time but had a falling out, resulting in a violent feud and several homicides.

Lewis and Hodges later were charged in separate federal drug indictments, pleaded guilty and are awaiting sentencing.

Court documents said Paris is believed **to** have been involved in the shooting of postal employee Marcus Smith because he mistakenly believed Smith had been asking questions about Lewis.

Paris also is a suspect in the fatal shooting of Armond Hickmon, 21, as he left his Farmington Hills apartment for work in June 2004.

The motive may have been revenge, authorities said.

In November 2003, Paris and Hickmon's brother, Antjuan, were involved in a shootout in Highland Park, in which Paris' brother, Laron, was killed.

Paris' lawyer, Kerry Jackson of Detroit, said: "My client is 100% not guilty."

Contact DAVID ASHENFELTER at 313-223-4490 or ashenf@freepress.com.

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Edition: METRO FINAL

Section: NWS; NEWS

Page: 5A

Index Terms: television; program; effect; arrest ; Lamont Paris

Record Number: dfp0000363356

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