

Suspect killed in Talihina incident was convicted - Times Record (Fort Smith, AR) - May 25, 2018 - page A3

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The man who was killed in a firefight with Oklahoma troopers in Talihina had a criminal history that spanned Oklahoma and Arkansas.

Bradley Daniel Webster, 52, of Talihina was killed in an officer-involved shooting that occurred after he fired a gun and possibly detonated a booby trap at tactical troopers with Oklahoma Highway Patrol when they tried to serve a "high-risk" narcotics warrant on him on the morning of May 11 in Talihina, Capt. Paul Timmons with OHP said. Court documents show Webster was a convicted felon in Polk County and had pending felony charges stemming from offenses in LeFlore County six months prior to his death.

Webster opened fire "with what investigators believe to be a fully automatic weapon," a May 14 news release from OHP states. One of his convictions in Polk County, which stemmed from a firefight following the attempted robbery of his residence on April 9, 2006, was possession or use of a machine gun, according to Polk County court documents.

Webster killed one suspect while defending his residence during the incident, according to the affidavit. He did not face any charge in connection with the slaying.

Webster's other convictions that arose from this incident were for first-degree endangering the welfare of a minor, manufacturing 10-100 pounds of marijuana, possession of marijuana with intent to deliver, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a defaced firearm. The defaced firearm was the 9mm Uzi submachine gun that was the source of his possession or use of a machine gun charge, according to documents.

Timmons said he did not know how Webster, a convicted felon, obtained the gun he used to fire at troopers on May 11.

Webster's pending felony charges in LeFlore County were felony throw or drop object on motor vehicle, felony malicious injury to property and misdemeanor breaking and entering without permission. Webster was charged after he screamed at people inside a dump truck at a red light, banged on and dented the passenger side door of the vehicle, screamed profanities at the people inside after opening the passenger door and threw a rock at the windshield on Nov. 14, 2017, in Talihina, according to court documents.

Timmons said Webster had "made threats about not going back to prison and made threats against law enforcement" prior to his death on May 11. Talihina Police Chief Rodney Faulkenberry said members of his department had "had dealings" with Webster in the past, but did not specify any further.

The possible booby trap is a suspected cause of a fire that destroyed two historic buildings in downtown Talihina on May 11, Timmons said. The firefight and fire prompted the response of 17 fire departments, four emergency management agencies and seven law enforcement agencies, according to John Waggoner with the Police Department.

All of downtown Talihina was blocked off for three days following the firefight and fire, Waggoner said. The intersection of Second and Dallas streets, which is near the two buildings that were destroyed in the fire, was still blocked off with crime scene tape on May 17.

The two buildings destroyed by the fire have been demolished, and crime scene tape has been entirely lifted from downtown Talihina.

Faulkenberry said the town “will bounce back” from the May 11 incident.

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