

NEWS

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Genovese Capo Angelo Prisco Admits Role
in Attempted Assault of Electrical Contractor

(More)

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NEWARK – Angelo Prisco, a Capo in the Genovese Crime Family, pleaded guilty today for his role in attempting to assault an electrical contractor who was competing with another electrical contractor with close ties to Prisco, U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced.

Prisco, 67, entered his plea before U.S. District Judge Joseph A. Greenaway, who scheduled sentencing for Sept. 10. Prisco, who has been held without bail since his arrest in March 2006, will remain in custody pending sentencing. Prisco pleaded guilty to a one-count Information which charged him with conspiring to engage in interstate travel in aid of racketeering.

At his plea hearing, Prisco admitted authorizing the assault of the electrical contractor, identified in the Information as “EM,” who was competing with another electrical contractor, John Cappelli, the owner of an electrical contracting business in the Bronx.

Prisco admitted to enlisting the services of Michael Visconti to assault EM. Visconti, in turn, sought the assistance of a man who turned out to be an FBI cooperating witness to carry out the assault. Investigative steps were taken to provide the cooperating witness with a reason to report to Visconti that the assault had to be aborted. Prisco admitted that, following the aborted assault, he received \$2,500 from Cappelli as payment for authorizing the attempted assault.

At the time of his arrest, Prisco was on parole for a state conviction for arson. He was also on federal supervised release for an extortion conviction in New York (Southern District of New York, White Plains).

The charge of conspiracy carries a statutory maximum penalty of five years in prison and \$250,000 fine. Prisco has agreed not to oppose at sentencing the government’s recommendation that he serve a full five-year term.

In determining the actual sentence, the Judge Greenaway will consult the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges that take into account the severity and characteristics of the offense, the defendant's criminal history, if any, and other factors. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Defendants who are given custodial terms must serve nearly all that time.

Christie credited Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Newark Division, under the direction of Acting Special Agent in Charge Pedro Ruiz; Special Agents of the New Jersey State Commission of Investigation; Special Agents of the

Internal Revenue Service; Special Agents of the Department of Labor, Office of Labor Racketeering; Detectives from the Waterfront Commission of New York Harbor; and Detectives from the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office, with the investigation leading to the guilty plea.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven D'Aguanno of the Criminal Division in Camden.

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Defense Counsel:
Miles Feinstein, Esq.