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'Hit Man' No Hit with Jurors; They Acquit the Man He Accused

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with the approval of local mobsters — and had to intercede with alleged local crime boss Angelo Bruno to spare Allen's life.

Sheeran called Allen "a liar and an informer and a rat." He admitted he had talked about violence with Al-

len, but only to humor the "idiot."

Allen's most dramatic testimony described how he waited, guns in pocket, until Marino, a convicted extortionist and free-lance Teamsters organizer, was alone in his office at 11 S. Strawberry St., near 2d and Market Sts.

"I got you now, you sonofabitch," Allen testified he said to Marino. "I shot him with a .22, but that didn't seem to have any effect. . . . So I started using a .38. He was running for a baseball bat. He kept turning, and I kept shooting. He tried to jump over the desk, and I shot him. Then, he fell

halfway under the desk. . . . He got halfway up, then fell again. I went around to his back and shot him."

After the verdict, FBI Agent Henry Handy shook hands with his adversary, defense attorney F. Emmett Fitzpatrick, who had credited Handy with changing Allen from killer to informant "like Saul on the road to Damascus."

"Courtney and Higgins did absolutely the best they could out of the case," Fitzpatrick said later. "There was not much evidence. What proof was there that Frank Sheeran did all these things other than Charlie Allen. . . ."

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jerriwilliamsauthor
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