

Men deny charges of duping businessman in Dubai

Six suspects deny swindling businessman and defrauding his Dh30m in building material deals

- By Bassam Za'za', Senior Reporter
- Published: 00:00 December 2, 2010



Dubai: An Emirati employee, accused of impersonating a prosecutor, and four other Palestinian men denied in court on Wednesday the charges of duping and defrauding a businessman of Dh30 million in business deals.

Prosecutors charged the 35-year-old employee, M.B., of posing as a senior prosecutor using forged identification documents and threatening to kill the 30-year-old Palestinian businessman.

M.B. and the Palestinians, two pairs of brothers, were accused of threatening to kill 30-year-old S.S., swindling and defrauding him as well.

"I am not guilty. I did not impersonate a prosecutor's job. I didn't even threaten to kill the claimant... its untrue. No of course not, I didn't swindle or defraud him," argued M.B. when he defended himself before the Dubai Court of First Instance.

One of the Palestinian suspects, 49-year-old M.G. [who is detained] and his 42-year-old brother M.G., pleaded not guilty before Presiding Judge Fahmi Mounir Fahmi in courtroom four.

A 28-year-old supervisor, A.S. and his 23-year-old brother, M.S, also pleaded innocent in court. According to the charges sheet, M.B. forged an identification card claiming that he is a prosecutor.

He reportedly showed the forged document to S.S. and threatened to kill him if he refused to drop his case [bounce cheques and threatening] against the 49-year-old and have him released.

Death threat

The 42-year-old brother was accused of threatening to chop S.S. into pieces and throw him in Dubai Creek. Prosecutors accused A.S. of threatening S.S. to have him raped if he refused to release the 49-year-old out of prison.

The 49-year-old and M.B. were charged with forging purchase orders and handing them to S.S.

A 37-year Palestinian woman, M.Z. [the 49-year-old's wife] was accused of forging a business card, claiming she is a bank manager and submitting it to S.S. and another person.

According to prosecution records, all the defendants [except the 42-year-old] were charged with swindling and coning Dh30 million from S.S.

Investment deal

Prosecutors said the 49-year-old alleged to S.S. that he ran companies and convinced him to invest his money in building and construction materials.

The 49-year-old agreed with S.S. to take his money [against guarantee cheques] to buy building materials and sell them to the companies and repay him the amount along with the profits.

Prosecution records said M.B. told S.S. that he is a prosecutor and descends from a wealthy family. He did so to confirm the 49-year-old's claims [concerning the business] and alleged to S.S. that he [M.B.] invested his money and made a good profit.

Presiding Judge Fahmi adjourned the case until December 26 to hear S.S.'s statement.

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