

# Manager gets bail after eight months in prison

Sick friend had died following scuffle with accused.

- By Bassam Za'za', Senior Reporter
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Dubai: A court has granted bail to a manager, who spent eight months in detention, on a charge of unintentionally beating his friend to death following an argument over a woman.

The Dubai Court of First Instance approved the bail request which was lodged by E.A.'s lawyer Yousuf Hamad on Sunday.

Prosecutors had charged E.A., a 40-year-old Palestinian manager with beating his HIV-positive Emirati friend without intending to kill him after they exchanged blows following a heated argument over a Russian woman.

Medical reports confirmed that the deceased [who was HIV positive and suffered from pneumonia and kidney problems] died of kidney failure, pneumonia and bacterial poisoning.

According to the charge-sheet, prosecutors said E.A. assaulted his friend, G.S. without intending to kill him. He was additionally charged with consuming liquor.

"No, I did not beat him or cause his death... I am not guilty of all these accusations," argued E.A. when he defended himself before Presiding Judge Fahmi Mounir Fahmi in courtroom four.

## No relief

"My client has been in detention since March 2009 ... he and his family has been suffering from emotional, financial and mental damages because of his prolonged detention. We ask the court to grant him bail," Hamad said.

Presiding Judge Fahmi adjourned the case until December 12 to hear prosecution witnesses. The bail request was approved after consultation between Judge Fahmi and his deputy judges Dr Ali Al Galadari and Mansour Al Awadi.

Prosecution records said the suspect knocked the victim down and immobilised him by placing his knees over G.S.'s arms. He then repeatedly punched him on his face and chest.

The deceased's brother, O.S., testified that while lunching at his father's house, his sister informed him that G.S. returned at midnight and he looked beaten and was bleeding from his nose face and ear.

### **Testimony**

"My mom and sister told me that G.S. I-shirt was soaked with blood. He bled from his legs as well. When asked by my mom and sister, he claimed that he fell off a motorcycle and injured himself... then he went into his room. He refused to be taken to hospital and asked to rest. Then next day my sister told me that G.S.'s situation worsened and that he vomited blood... he refused to be taken to hospital and asked to rest another time," O.S. claimed to prosecutors.

According to records, the victim was taken to hospital two days following the incident. He succumbed on the third day following the assault. His family members heard him saying the suspect's name. They said he received phone calls from two numbers repeatedly.

An Emirati police lieutenant claimed that the suspect and the Russian girl were identified because they repeatedly called the victim to check on him.

"During questioning, the suspect alleged that he, G.S. and the Russian girl had alcohol in a pub ... the victim was heavily intoxicated and assaulted the girl a number of time. Then the got involved in a heated argument which developed into a fistfight," the lieutenant claimed.