

Policeman denies theft of suspect's mobile phone

The mobile phone belonged to a suspect who was detained at the Anti-narcotics Department of Dubai Police

- By Bassam Za'za/Senior Reporter
- Published: 00:00 December 30, 2010



Dubai: A 19-year-old Emirati policeman on Wednesday denied in court the charge of abusing his position and stealing a suspect's mobile phone from a safety box.

The mobile phone belonged to a suspect who was detained at the Anti-narcotics Department of Dubai Police. "I am not guilty. I did not steal anything," pleaded M.E. in his defence before the Dubai Court of First Instance.

According to the charge sheet, the suspect abused his work as an anti-narcotics policeman and stole the phone from the safety box. The phone belonged to a Moroccan suspect who had placed his phone in the detention centre's safety box until the investigation in his case was concluded.

"I ask the court for mercy and leniency," said M.E. when he addressed Presiding Judge Dr Ali Al Galadari in courtroom four yesterday.

An Omani policeman [who is responsible for the safety box] testified that during his morning shift nothing was missing from the safety boxes when he checked them.

"Around noontime my supervisor asked me to return the mobile phone to the Moroccan suspect... when I opened the safety box, the mobile phone was missing.

"I checked the other safety boxes to ensure that the mobile phone had not been mistakenly placed under someone else's name. But I didn't find the phone. Immediately I informed my supervisor... later I came to know that M.E. got arrested after the phone was found in his possession," the Omani claimed to prosecutors.

A judgment will be heard on January 12.