

Three accused of throwing gasoline-bomb at policewoman's house

Prosecutors accused the three men, with deliberate arson

- By Bassam Za'za', Senior Reporter
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Dubai: Three unemployed men have been charged with throwing a handmade gasoline-bomb and deliberately setting a policewoman's house afire following a personal dispute with her brother, heard a court Thursday.

Prosecutors accused the three men, a 27-year-old who doesn't carry personal identification documents and two Emirati brothers, with deliberate arson and causing damages to few trees in the front yard of the policewoman's place in Al Wasl.

"I am not guilty. I was not present at the alleged crime scene," argued 27-year-old K.E. when he defended himself before the Dubai Court of First Instance.

The Emirati brothers, 19-year-old Ahmad H. and 22-year-old Abdullah H. did not appear in courtroom four Thursday.

Presiding Judge Hamad Abdul Latif Abdul Jawad adjourned the case until November 1 until the brothers are legally notified about the hearing's date.

"I am seeking innocence... I had nothing to do with what happened," K.E. contended before Presiding Judge Abdul Jawad.

According to the bill of charges, prosecutors said Abdullah threw the handmade gasoline-bomb at the house of the Emirati policewoman, F.J., and her brother, H.J.

Prosecution records said the defendants filled a glass bottle with gasoline and coated it with a white cloth. Then they lit the cloth and threw the bottle inside the front yard causing the fire.

The policewoman testified that she witnessed the incident as soon as she came near to her house back from work.

"I was 20 or 30 metres away when I spotted a stranger at the entrance ... the door was open. I saw him carrying a bottle and a cloth. When I reached home I spotted clouds of smoke coming from the garden. When he saw me, he ran away along with another person

who came out running from inside. They ran towards a runaway car which was parked 30 metres away our house," F.J. claimed during prosecution questioning.

Meanwhile H.J. claimed to prosecutors that after they noticed the fire, he spotted K.E. and another man standing in their garden.

An Emirati first lieutenant testified that the suspects confessed to setting fire to the house because they had a dispute with the policewoman's second brother [M.J.].

The trial continues.

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