

## ' King of Bling ' to stand trial in Detroit

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The Manhattan celebrity jeweler sometimes known as the " **King of Bling** " will get his own **trial** on money laundering charges, but it will be held **in Detroit** , not New York City, a federal judge ruled today.

Jacob Arabov, who has sold watches and other jewelry **to** Madonna, Elton John and much **of** the hip-hop world, was indicted **in** June, accused **of** helping **to** launder some **of** the more than \$270 million **in** drug profits allegedly reaped by the "Black Mafia Family" gang allegedly run by Terry and Demetrius Flenory, two former Detroiters.

Arabov, 41, has pleaded not guilty.

His lawyer, Benjamin Brafman, argued it would be prejudicial for his client **to** be tried alongside accused drug dealers and too costly for him **to** defend himself **in Detroit** .

Today, U.S. District Judge Avern Cohn agreed Arabov will get his own **trial** , but denied Brafman's request for a change **of** venue.

"You should prepare yourself for a **trial in** the Eastern District **of** Michigan," Cohn said, despite Brafman's promise **to** file another brief detailing the "extreme hardship" that would cause his client.

**In** all, 41 people are charged **in** the case.

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