

## 7 CHARGED IN ALLEGED DRUG RING AT CAR WASH

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Thursday, August 24, 1989

Author: LORI MATHEWS Free Press Staff Writer

Seven people, among 19 accused Wednesday **in** a federal grand jury indictment of operating a "large-scale narcotics organization" out of a north Detroit **car wash** , were arraigned **in** U.S. District Court **in** Detroit.

The seven, who appeared before Magistrate Thomas Carlson on charges of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and distribution of controlled substances, were released on personal bond after agreeing to surrender their passports, abide by travel restrictions and undergo urinalysis and **drug** counseling.

Each faces a maximum sentence of life imprisonment without parole and a \$4 million fine. The others were being sought by authorities.

According to the indictment, **drugs** were stored and delivered **in** multi-kilo quantities from the R & J **Car Wash** , 1840 E. State Fair, where organization members handled telephone transactions and distribution.

The operation was allegedly headed by Robert Barash and Toufic Nagi, both of Sterling Heights. Federal officials said the **alleged ring** was capable of weekly distribution of 66 to 88 pounds of cocaine, which was supplied by unidentified Colombians **in** New York.

Nagi, 23, and Barash, 20, also transported heroin from New York for distribution throughout the Detroit area, federal officials said. **In** May, Barash and Nagi pleaded guilty to federal **drug** charges and are awaiting sentencing.

**In** court Wednesday were Detroiters Samuel Grooms, 31, Safa Dabish, 22, and Laron Adamson, 20; Patrick George, 27, of Farmington Hills; Bushar Mezo, 21, of Troy; Sam Shamoon, 24, of Southfield, and Archie Traylor, 21, of Highland Park.

Upon leaving the courtroom, some defendants swore **at** reporters when asked for comment. Several left the building wearing shopping bags over their heads and did not take them off until they drove away.

\*\*\*

Memo: SHORTER VERSION IN METRO FINAL EDITION

Edition: METRO EDITION

Section: NWS

Page: 14A;

Index Terms: DRUG; COURT ; MULTIPLE ; DETROIT ; AUTOMOBILE

Record Number: 8902030602

Copyright (c) 1989 Detroit Free Press