

TEEN DESCRIBES DRUG-HOUSE JAIL

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If the drug dealers were happy, they'd feed him.

But no more than once a day and sometimes not at all, 15- year-old **Tazar Carter** said.

He was locked in an abandoned house, with roaches and occasional crack heads for company, to sell drugs all day long, seven days a week. And when he came up a little short on the money, the drug dealers would kick him around.

Such was the life described Monday by **Carter** , the smallish teenager whose servitude in Detroit's vicious drug world made headlines around the world.

Carter testified at the preliminary examination for 35-year- old Robert Stanley, one of several men **Carter** said he'd slaved for since he left his mother in early August.

After hearing the testimony, 36th District Chief Judge Joseph Baltimore ordered Stanley to trial on charges of first- degree criminal sexual conduct and kidnapping. Both charges carry a penalty of up to life in prison on conviction.

When **Carter** 's plight surfaced last month, there were widely publicized reports that his mother traded him to

drug dealers to satisfy a debt.

On the witness stand Monday, **Carter** was not asked about that. His mother, Mary **Carter** , has denied those reports. She had told police her son left her voluntarily to go with a drug dealer driving a green sedan with "Special" painted on its side.

The teenager testified that in August he began selling drugs for a dealer he knew only as Man out of a dope house on 31st Street and Horatio.

In mid-September, after **Carter** was threatened and kicked for coming up short on proceeds from drug sales, Stanley helped **Carter** leave Man and set him up with another reputed drug dealer, Eugene (Boogie) Carr, in one of two adjoining houses on 28th Street.

Carter was locked into a house that had bars on the window and doors nailed shut, he testified. Carr told him to never give drugs free to anybody, **Carter** said.

Stanley, an ex-con and habitual criminal who was managing the drug house, would only feed him once a day and sometimes not at all, **Carter** testified.

Stanley brought a crack-addicted woman known as Freedom to the house and told **Carter** to give her a rock of crack cocaine, despite the house rules of no free drugs. Stanley wanted to have sex with her and that was her price, **Carter** said.

"If I didn't give her the rock, I wouldn't get fed," **Carter** said.

So he did.

After Stanley and the woman smoked the crack, they had sex, **Carter** said. After that, Stanley told him to have sex with the woman, and Stanley stood outside the bedroom door throughout, **Carter** said.

Carter said Stanley did this again and again, "three days out of every week," with as many as 20 different women. He could remember the first names of only three of them.

Carter said he wanted to leave but couldn't because the house was strongly secured and because Stanley threatened him.

"Robert Stanley said if I tried to run, he'd know where I was at because he knows everybody in the city," **Carter** said.

As **Carter** testified, Stanley appeared agitated, shaking his head and grimacing at **Carter** . The youth appeared to ignore him.

Carter said he learned after a while that Stanley was skimming profits from the operation.

In November, Stanley introduced **Carter** to a man named Sammy Baker. It was Baker, **Carter** testified, who later helped him escape and gave him a safe place to live.

When Richard Glanda, Stanley's lawyer, asked **Carter** why he couldn't call his grandmother, **Carter** said the phone in the drug house had been disconnected and that Stanley accompanied him any time he left.

"My head was messed up in my thinking and stuff," said **Carter** .

Stanley, who has pleaded not guilty, has told authorities that he fears for his life.

Glanda objected to his client being charged with criminal sexual conduct. He said Stanley did not molest **Carter** , and pointed out that there had been no mention of a weapon.

Baltimore said he had doubts that the charge was appropriate; nonetheless, he ordered Stanley to stand trial.

Although Assistant Prosecutor Curtis Smith cited Stanley's record -- including a 1991 conviction for being a habitual criminal, a pending felonious- assault charge and skipping a court date while free on bond -- Baltimore granted an \$80,000 bond for Stanley, who was being held without bond.

Stanley can be released if he posts \$8,000.

Caption: Photo Color JANA MENEFEE/Detroit Free Press

: **TazarCarter** , left, said Monday in court that Robert Stanley, right, held him hostage in a drug house. Stanley was ordered to stand trial on charges of criminal sexual conduct and kidnapping.

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