

## **TEEN DESCRIBES DRUG-HOUSE JAIL TAZAR CARTER TESTIFIES IN KIDNAP-SEX TRIAL**

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In his first public testimony, 15-year-old **Tazar Carter** said Monday that he was locked up in a Detroit drug house and fed, at best, once a day during three months in captivity by drug dealers.

**Carter** said Robert Stanley kept him in a drug house with barred windows and nailed-shut doors 24 hours a day, seven days a week, most of the time from August until mid-November, when a stranger rescued him.

After hearing **Carter**'s testimony, 36th District Judge Joseph Baltimore ordered Stanley, a 35-year-old ex-con and habitual criminal, to stand trial in Recorder's Court on one charge of first-degree criminal sexual conduct and one of kidnapping.

Both charges carry a maximum penalty of life in prison.

**Carter** testified he had been forced by Stanley to have sex with female clients of the drug house "three days out of every week."

He said Stanley managed two adjoining drug houses on 28th Street near Horatio on Detroit's near west side. He said Stanley would bring female addicts to the house and order him to give them crack cocaine so Stanley could have sex with them. Afterward, **Carter** said, he was forced to have sex with the women as Stanley waited outside an open bedroom door.

**Carter** said he was never sexually assaulted by Stanley.

The teen said he was threatened with physical harm and was told he wouldn't be given food if he didn't follow Stanley's directions -- even though he had been ordered by the man who operated the drug house, Eugene (Boogie) Carr, to never give drugs to anyone for free. Carr has not been charged.

The teen said he was fed at most once a day, and sometimes not at all.

In a quiet voice that occasionally had the court reporter asking him to repeat himself, **Carter** said he started selling drugs in August for a dealer he knew only as "Man."

**Carter** was not asked whether he voluntarily sold drugs or whether he did it to pay off his mother's drug debt, as Detroit police have said. **Carter**'s mother, Mary **Carter**, has denied she sold her son to the drug dealer to settle a debt.

The teen said that before the sex incidents began, he was hired by Man to sell drugs out of a house on 31st and Horatio. Man or someone who worked for him would feed him, he testified.

Once, **Carter** said, he was so hungry he took some of the money he'd made selling heroin and bought food.

One of the men working for Man got angry about the money shortage, cursed him and kicked him in the ribs, **Carter** testified.

Later, **Carter** said, Stanley lured him to the dope house on 28th Street operated by Carr. **Carter** said Stanley had been skimming profits from Carr.

About 20 times, **Carter** said, Stanley brought women to the house and ordered **Carter** to give them rocks of crack in exchange for sex with Stanley.

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

**Carter** said he tried to get away from the house on 28th but couldn't because the windows were barred and the doors nailed shut. He said Carr transferred him to the neighboring house on 28th which had no bars, but he was warned by Stanley not to try to escape.

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

Stanley appeared agitated during much of **Carter** 's testimony, shaking his head and grimacing at the teenager. He has pled not guilty to the charges.

**Carter** said he was afraid to escape because he would have had nowhere to go, and Stanley had threatened to track him down. He finally escaped from the drug houses in mid-November with the help of Sammy Baker, who had been introduced to him at the houses by Stanley. On his third visit to the house, Baker broke out a window to help **Carter** escape.

About a week later, on Nov. 27, police found **Carter** in Baker's home in the Brightmoor area on Detroit's far west side after police officials appealed to the public for help in finding the boy.

He gave no clear reason why he didn't call his grandmother himself, other than his fear of the drug dealers.

**Carter** remains in seclusion under the supervision of the state Department of Social Services.  
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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