

ALLEGED DRUG LIEUTENANT CHARGED IN HIRED KILLING

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U.S. Magistrate Marcia Cooke, denouncing "the continued escalation of drugs, violence and guns in this community," Tuesday ordered alleged drug gang lieutenant Ragheed (Ray) Akrawi held without bond on a federal gun charge.

Within hours, Detroit 36th District Court Magistrate Izetta Bright ordered Akrawi, 21, held without bond on a first-degree murder charge in the alleged hired killing of Adnan Jihad.

Akrawi was charged Monday in 36th District Court with setting up Jihad's assassination to avenge the February fatal shooting of reputed drug boss **Harry Kalasho** .

On Tuesday, Cooke said two days of testimony indicated that Akrawi, charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm, "is involved in a continuing criminal enterprise" to deal drugs.

Federal agents testified that Akrawi was a key lieutenant in **Kalasho** 's violence-prone cocaine ring, operating with an arsenal of automatic and assault rifles, high-powered pistols, death threats, contract killings, and munitions books that Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Kalec called "a cookbook for terrorism."

The agents testified that Akrawi had guns when they raided family homes in Detroit and West Bloomfield Township in the spring. He was arrested on the federal charge Thursday when agents learned that he, using an alias, had been convicted in Detroit Recorder's Court of a felony weapons violation.

Cooke said that Akrawi seemed to be part of a dangerous mix of "young men, firearms, money and no visible means of support."

According to testimony, Akrawi claimed to earn \$2,400 in 1986 and \$2,700 in 1987 as a neighborhood market cashier, but arranged the purchases for more than \$250,000 of three Mercedes-Benzes, a Corvette convertible and a Ford Bronco.

In the murder case against Akrawi, **Kalasho** -- Akrawi's cousin and boss -- was allegedly killed by Raed Jihad, the son of Adnan Jihad.

Two Detroit teenagers, Tim Jackson, 18, and Thomas Harris, 19, also are charged in the Jihad killing. They were allegedly promised \$10,000 by Akrawi, but told police they were paid only \$2,000 after shooting Jihad to death in front of a coffeehouse on John R the evening of Sept. 19.

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