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Toronto Sun

Suspect in knife murder ordered held

By [ROB LAMBERTI](#), SUN MEDIA

Shahin Pirouzi listened attentively from the prisoners' dock in the cramped Old City Hall basement courtroom as he was ordered to remain in custody.

The 29-year-old man is charged with second-degree murder, accused of killing a man who lived in the same Campbell Ave. roominghouse Thursday afternoon.

The victim, also 29, was repeatedly stabbed in a frenzied attack on Wallace Ave., less than a block from his home. He later died at St. Michael's Hospital, becoming the city's 14th murder of the year, the first following a 28-day respite of homicides in Toronto.

The victim's name is being withheld until Maine state police are able to track down and notify members of the family, originally from Sierra Leone.

An autopsy is scheduled for today.

THREATENING

Pirouzi, who is also charged with threatening in an unrelated incident, listened closely to the discussions by his lawyer Ari Goldkind and Crown attorney Warren Thompson as they arranged a remand date of April 24.

Goldkind asked the court that medical attention be provided if necessary for his client.

"I'm not going to discuss at this early point" issues dealing with his client's mental health, Goldkind said outside court after the hearing. The suspect is believed to have schizophrenia.

"He's having a difficult time," Goldkind said. "This is a tough time for more than him."

Yesterday, all that remains on Wallace as a reminder of the slaying are 17 white chalk circles with smudges of blood. Area resident Hans Plania, 67, tried to grab a man who fled the scene after the attack, but couldn't run fast enough.

He heard one man tell the other that "you owe me" moments before the attack.