

Newsroom crash driver wanted to be on TV

by UPI

CHICAGO -- The Chicago-area man who smashed his mini-van into a downtown television studio during the nightly news broadcast "wanted to be on the news." Prosecutors told a Cook County judge Gerald Richardson, 25, "wanted to be on the news" prior to driving his mini-van into WLS-TV, Chicago, television studio Sunday night. The judge ordered Richardson held on \$125,000 bail and prosecutors charged him with criminal damage to property, resisting arrest, reckless driving and operating an uninsured vehicle, the Chicago Tribune said Wednesday. The crash occurred during the 10 p.m. newscast, prompting news anchor Ravi Baichwal to shout "Ho!" as the vehicle smashed through the studio walls. Angela Lockett, Richardson's attorney, said Richardson suffered "mental strain" from losing his mother three years ago and two uncles this past year, the Chicago Sun-Times reported Wednesday.

Copyright © 2007, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

Newsroom crash driver wanted to be on TV by UPI