

Musician may lose deals, court told

By NICHOLAS NGOLYO

Congolese musician General Defao who is facing Sh594,400 fraud charges may lose four contracts if he is denied bail, a court heard yesterday.

Lawyers Cecil Miller and Clif Ombeta told Kibera Senior Principal Magistrate Wanjiru Karanja that the Lingala songs maestro has four concerts to perform in Eldoret, Nakuru, Mombasa and Kisumu.

Mr Miller said that if his client was denied bail, it would interfere with the business of the 12-member band and concert promoters.

Mr Miller said this in an application seeking the release of the musician on bail.

Defao incurred the debt at Kilimanjaro's Palacina Residential Hotel between October and March by pretending he could pay for the services, the prosecutor, Chief Inspector William Kemboi told the court.

Mr Miller said the musician was diabetic and suffered from high blood pressure.

He produced doctor's letters to confirm that the musician is on treatment and special diet. He said there were receipts to prove that drugs were bought.



General Defao

following in Kenya, he said.

Earlier, Mr Kemboi said if the court granted the musician bail, then he should surrender his passport.

The other members of the band were being investigated and might be charged together with Defao, he added.

Mrs Karanja had on Friday adjourned the hearing until yesterday for a French Interpreter to come to court because Defao does not understand either English or Kiswahili.

Defao was read the charge by the interpreter afresh and he pleaded not guilty.

The lawyer said that if denied bail, Defao's medical condition may get worse in remand.

He said that it was not logical for Mr Kemboi to say that his client had no fixed abode, adding that Defao was an international entertainer who could not abscond if released on bail.

The King of *Kiwanzanza* dancing style has a fanatical