



THE JAMES KAUFFMAN STORY

BIKERS, DRUGS, DIVORCE AND MURDER



EDWARD LEA / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

‘For the past 5½ years since April Kauffman was found shot to death inside her home in Linwood, New Jersey, there has been little movement in this case and no arrests have been made in connection with the murder. That is, until today,’ Atlantic County Prosecutor Damon G. Tyner said Tuesday at his office in announcing charges in the 2012 death of Kauffman.

8 charged in conspiracy to kill April Kauffman

CLAIRE LOWE & ERIN SERPICO
Staff Writers

MAYS LANDING — Dr. James Kauffman plotted with the Pagans outlaw motorcycle gang to build a massive opioid drug ring, and when his wife found out and threatened divorce, he had her killed to protect his drug “empire,” Atlantic County Prosecutor Damon G. Tyner said Tuesday.

In a brief but explosive press conference that ended years of speculation but little action by authorities, Tyner announced murder and drug-conspiracy charges against Kauffman and seven Pagan members or associates, one of whom was charged Tuesday with the 2012 murder of April Kauffman.

“For the past 5½ years since April Kauffman was found shot to death inside her home in Linwood, New Jersey, there has been little movement in this case and no arrests have been made in connection with the murder. That is, until today,” Tyner said Tuesday at his office.

Tyner said the doctor’s motive was to protect a drug ring peddling opioids through his Egg Harbor Township endocrinology practice. Threatened with divorce and discovery by April, he paid a hit man \$20,000 to kill her, Tyner said.

“He was intent to rather have her killed as opposed to losing his

See **KAUFFMAN**, A2



APRIL KAUFFMAN
The veterans advocate, radio host and hairdresser was murdered May 10, 2012, in her home on Woodstock Drive in Linwood.



VERNON OGRODNEK / MULTIMEDIA EDITOR
Kim Pack, daughter of murder victim April Kauffman, talks to the media Tuesday at her attorney’s office in Egg Harbor Township.

“I have been waiting patiently for justice, and today I was lucky enough to be granted justice.”

KIM PACK
April Kauffman’s daughter

Daughter Pack celebrates ‘justice’

SUZANNE MARINO
Staff Writer

EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP — Kimberly Pack had waited for Tuesday’s news ever since May 10, 2012, when her mother, radio host and veterans advocate April Kauffman, was found slain inside her Linwood home.

“Today I feel like I was granted justice,” said Pack, 35. “For the first time today, I feel like I can actually breathe.”

Less than an hour earlier, Pack had watched on television as Atlantic County Prosecutor Damon G. Tyner announced that her stepfather, Dr. James Kauffman, had been charged with drug racketeering and the murder of her mother.

“It takes your breath away,” Pack said during a press conference at her lawyer’s office. “I was 29 years old when my mother was killed. I thought I had everything in my life, but then this was like a

See **PACK**, A2

AT PRESSOFAC.COM: Watch video of Tuesday’s press conference and Kim Pack’s reaction to the charges, and check out an interactive timeline of the Kauffman murder case.



SETH WENIG / ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHRISTIE’S LAST HURRAH
The governor claims accomplishments on unemployment and property taxes as he makes his final State of the State speech. **D1**

LOCAL LEGISLATORS SWORN IN
John Armato becomes the rare western Atlantic County politician to join the state Assembly, while Chris Brown is promoted from the Assembly to the Senate. **A3**

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