

**OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR**

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**County of Warren**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Charged: Kyle Kaspereen**  
**1220 Butler Street**  
**Easton, PA 18042**  
**DOB: 03/14/1997**

On November 30, 2021, Washington Township Police Officers were dispatched to 122 Wayne Street, Washington Borough, for report of a vicious assault. Upon arrival, Elaine Trachin, 84, was found unconscious, and William "Bart" Trachin, 53, was found taped to his wheelchair, with a garbage bag over his head, and critically injured. The cause of the injuries to both appeared to be blunt force trauma. Ms. Trachin was ultimately pronounced dead at the scene, while Mr. Trachin was flown to a local trauma center where he remains in critical condition.

On December 1, 2021, a review of Mr. Trachin's phone records revealed numerous contacts with Kyle Kaspereen, 24, currently from Easton, P.A. but who had previously resided in Washington, N.J., regarding the purported sale of a motorcycle owned by Mr. Trachin. While Mr. Kaspereen was being interviewed, he was discovered to be deleting text messages and calls from his cellular phone. When confronted, he acknowledged the deletions and explained that what was on his phone contradicted his statement to law enforcement. At that time, Mr. Kaspereen was charged with the destruction of that evidence and lodged in Warren County Jail.

Additional investigation recovered the deleted content from Mr. Kaspereen's phone, which did in fact contradict his statement to law enforcement regarding his whereabouts, who he had contacted, and the timing of both. His cell phone was also found to be pinging from at or near the scene of the attack at the suspected time of the attack. Further research discovered that Mr. Trachin's phone and Ms. Trachin's wallet were both missing from the scene. An analysis of Mr. Kaspereen's phone revealed

numerous internet searches that included information on police investigation tactics – specifically with respect to murder – whether there had been any murders in Washington, N.J., and how to use a credit or debit card absent the pin number. These searches were performed after the discovery of Mr. and Ms. Trachin, but before any public announcement about those findings had been released. Video surveillance from hours after the attack appears to show Mr. Kaspereen dropping a cellphone into the Delaware River while walking across the Free Bridge from Phillipsburg, N.J., into Easton, P.A., where Mr. Kaspereen resides. A search of the Delaware River by the New Jersey State Police discovered Mr. Trachin’s phone in the river near where that surveillance identified Mr. Kaspereen dropping it from the bridge.

A search of Mr. Kaspereen’s apartment revealed a trash bag consistent with that found over Mr. Trachin’s head that was unused and discarded. The search also discovered an empty box from a BB pistol that Mr. Kaspereen was found to have purchased in the last two weeks.

On December 9, 2021, Kyle Kaspereen was charged with the following crimes and remains in Warren County Jail pending a Detention Hearing:

- Count I:** Murder, First Degree, N.J.S. 2C:11-3
- Count II:** Attempted Murder, First Degree, N.J.S. 2C:5-1
- Count III:** Kidnapping, First Degree, N.J.S. 2C:13-1
- Count IV:** Robbery, First Degree, N.J.S. 2C:15-1
- Count V:** Burglary, Second Degree, N.J.S. 2C:18-2
- Count VI:** Tampering with Evidence, Fourth Degree, N.J.S. 2C:28-5

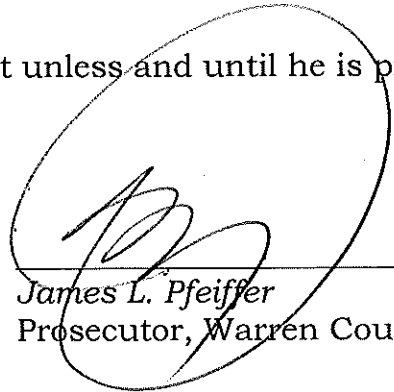
Murder carries a maximum penalty of life in prison without the possibility of parole, First Degree crimes carry a maximum penalty of 20 years in New Jersey State Prison, Second Degree crimes carry a maximum penalty of 10 years in New Jersey State Prison and Fourth Degree crimes carry a maximum penalty of 18 months in New Jersey State Prison.

This investigation was conducted by the Warren County Prosecutor's Office and the Washington Township Police Department with the assistance of the Pohatcong Township Police Department, Greenwich Township Police Department, Phillipsburg Police Department, New Jersey State Police, FBI, Secret Service, Easton Police Department and the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission.

The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until he is proven guilty.

Approved by:

Dated: December 10, 2021



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James L. Pfeiffer  
Prosecutor, Warren County