Trial begins for Markham woman charged in mother's death

BY JEREMY GRIMALDI jgrimaldi@yrmg.com

The long-awaited murder trial of a Markham woman, accused of staging a home invasion that left her mother dead, is underway at the Newmarket courthouse.

The judge spent much of yesterday morning instructing the jury, which took about one month to select.

Jennifer Pan, 28, of Markham, listened solemnly to the proceedings.

She was wearing a long black cardigan and ponytail and looked straight ahead at the judge, alongside the four co-accused.

She showed no emotion and did not look back at the gallery, which was packed with media, court artists, family and interested parties.

Ms Pan was charged Nov. 23, 2010

with first-degree murder, attempted murder and conspiracy to commit murder in the death of Bich Ha Pan, 53, and shooting of Hann Pan, then 57, who are her parents, in the Nov. 8, 2010 incident in Markham.

Ms Pan, 24 at the time, told police initially she was tied up on an upper floor in the home during a home invasion and investigators considered the incident a home invasion and homicide.

"At that particular point in time, we had nothing to indicate what the motive was and obviously... that changed over a short period of time and we were able to determine that it appears, at this point in time, not to have been random," then-York Regional Police chief Armand La Barge told reporters at the Markham police station Nov. 23, 2010.

Police did not discuss any motive for the crimes.

In the aftermath of the incident. police developed suspect descriptions, based on information received from Ms Pan.

After conversations with her father and other people, the descriptions of those suspects changed, Det.-Sgt. Wilson said.

York Regional Police made five arrests altogether, including Lenford Roy Crawford, 28, of Brampton, Toronto's David Mylavaganam, 22, and Eric Carty, 30, and Daniel Chi-Kwong Wong, 25, of Ajax.

All are charged with first-degree murder, attempted murder and conspiracy to commit murder.

Officers were called to a home invasion on Helen Avenue, in the Kennedy Road and Hwy. 407 area,

FILE PHOTO

Nov. 8, 2010 at about 10:30 p.m. When they arrived, police found Bich Ha Pan dead. Her husband

had gunshot wounds, but has since

recovered.

Check back at yorkregion.com for updates as we continue to follow

Jennifer Pan

(centre) attended

the 2010 funeral

Bich Ha Pan, who

was killed at her

Markham home.

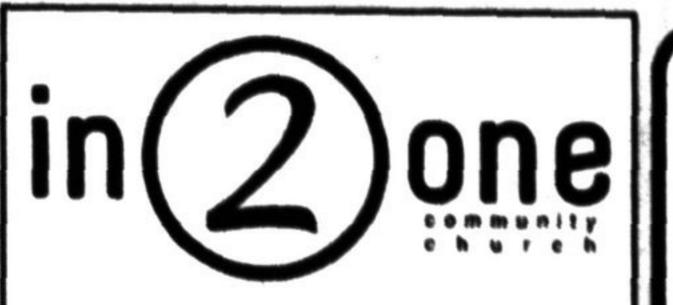
Her daughter is

degree murder.

charged with first-

for her mother

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頌恩旋律 暨 恩泉浸信會合辦

日期及時間: 4月13日晚上7時半 地點: Lebovic Centre for Arts & Entertainment 19 Civic Avenue, Stouffville 預訂免費門際: http://goo.gl/f0izto (一人一票, 不設兒童托管服務) 童鶴: 647-547-3618