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## **Suspect Talked In Brothel Case**

May 11, 1997 | Inquirer correspondent Douglas Herbert contributed to this article



On an October morning in 1992, a married man named Craig Rabinowitz walked into a 10th-floor conference room at the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office and told of his life with prostitutes.

Rabinowitz, then 29, was a witness in the investigation of a Center City brothel called J.P. Tiffany's, run by a woman named Jayne Kelly, whose husband was a Philadelphia police lieutenant. The couple eventually pleaded guilty to running a house of prostitution.

No charges were brought against Rabinowitz, because he agreed to give evidence. Later, he would give brief testimony at a court hearing; at the District Attorney's Office, he went into detail.

As a detective took notes, Rabinowitz told of having gone to escort services in the past, and of having bought sex from prostitutes connected to Tiffany's a dozen times between ``March or April of 1989" and August 1992, when police raided the Pine Street brothel.

That meant Rabinowitz was going to prostitutes before and after his June 17, 1990, marriage to Stefanie Newman, the woman he is now accused of murdering.

He told of a woman named Jeannie who had given him her beeper number and a Tiffany's business card. When Jeannie couldn't see him, Rabinowitz said, she ``recommended'' other women named Courtney and Taylor.

``She said these girls worked for her," he said, according to a statement prepared by the detective and signed by Rabinowitz. ``During all of these times with Jeannie, about 10 times over two years, and the time with Taylor and the time with Courtney, I either had sexual intercourse or oral sex was performed on me on each occassion [sic] in exchange for \$150 to \$175 cash or check, mostly cash, maybe one time credit card. . . . A condom was always used which was supplied by these girls."

His last visit to Tiffany's, in August 1992, was memorable.

- ``The last time I was at Pine Street was I believe the day of the arrest," he told the detective,
- ``because I saw it on the news that night. I saw Courtney that day."

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