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## Murder suspect with AIDS may plead insanity in deputy's 2004 slaying

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Lawyers for Kenneth Wilk plan to use an insanity defense in his murder trial in the death of Broward Sheriff's Deputy Todd Fatta, court documents filed Monday show.

Wilk, 45, suffers from advanced AIDS, and could face a death sentence if convicted of the Aug. 19, 2004, attack. Federal prosecutors say he lay in wait and fired shots, killing Fatta and injuring Sgt. Angelo Cedeño during a child pornography raid on Wilk's Fort Lauderdale home.

Wilk's attorney, William Matthewman, declined to comment other than to say Wilk's team of lawyers is preparing for trial, scheduled for April.

But documents filed Monday by the defense indicate they may use a multi-pronged defense arguing Wilk had diminished mental capacity at the time of the shooting, did not intend to kill, and that he responded to possible aggression from Fatta, 33, who had used anabolic steroids, according to autopsy findings.

At least two expert witnesses are expected to testify for the defense that Wilk suffered from psychiatric conditions, including AIDS-related dementia that made him insane or impaired his judgment. One of the experts found that Wilk may have thought he was acting in self-defense at the time of the slaying.

And Harvard psychiatry professor Harrison G. Pope is expected to testify for the defense as an expert witness on anabolic steroid use and abuse because anabolic steroids, nandrolone and stanozolol, were found in Fatta's system. The artificial male hormones promote muscle mass and are illegal here unless prescribed. They have medical uses but can cause aggression and impair judgment.

Wilk had a history of threatening law enforcement, court and police records show.

Prosecutors told Wilk's attorneys in May 2005 that Fatta's name was on a list of people thought to have bought steroids without a valid prescription at a Deerfield Beach company. The PowerMedica customers included several sheriff's deputies, all of whom were cleared of wrongdoing by the Sheriff's Office internal affairs investigation.

"Dr. Pope's expertise will involve issues raised by the presence of anabolic steroids in the victim ... and the effects, including aggressive behavior, by steroid users, as well as risk factors of steroid use ...," according to the defense filings.

The defense has asked a federal judge to order prosecutors to turn over more information about Fatta's steroid use, as well as any other use of drugs or narcotics.

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