

# Local Family Raising Money for Reward in Florida Slaying

Lansing State Journal

May 22, 2008

EAST LANSING - A family is searching for the person who killed a former East Lansing man last month.

While law enforcement officials investigate the homicide of James Bowerman - found dead April 12 in his Miami apartment - his family is raising money to offer a reward for the capture and arrest of his killer.

The family opened a memorial fund at First National Bank of America, 241 E. Saginaw St. in East Lansing, said Bowerman's aunt, Dixie Battin of Charlotte. They will use the money to pay for the reward.

Bowerman grew up in the Glencairn area of East Lansing and graduated from East Lansing High School in 1999. After leaving the area in 2004, he lived in Las Vegas and Los Angeles before moving to Miami about a year ago.

Officers were dispatched to Bowerman's apartment April 12 after getting a call from the man's co-workers, who were worried because he missed his shift at Chili's in Aventura, Fla., where he was a waiter, according to North Miami police. Officers entered through an unlocked back door and found his body.

Bowerman's family has created a Web site dedicated to Bowerman and the case:  
<http://www.justiceforjim.com/>.

The Miami Herald contributed to this report. Contact Kathryn Prater at 377-1063 or [kprater@lsj.com](mailto:kprater@lsj.com).