

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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**Arleta Man Charged in Killing of Neighbor,
Attempted Murder of Other Neighbors**

A 22-year-old Arleta man has been charged in connection with the killing of a neighbor, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Javier Garcia (dob 12/16/92) faces one count each of murder and assault by means likely to produce great bodily injury and two counts each of attempted murder and assault with a deadly weapon in case PA082688.

Garcia pleaded not guilty today to all counts and is due back on Feb. 10 in Department S of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, San Fernando Branch.

On Dec. 21, Garcia and two others were driving erratically by his house on the 8800 block of Beachy Avenue when his neighbor Edgar Barrientos went outside to investigate the loud car noises, prosecutors said. Barrientos was allegedly then beaten by the defendant and the other two, prosecutors added.

Garcia is accused of threatening two other neighbors that attempted to stop the beating. Barrientos was then stabbed to death when he came to the defense of those neighbors, prosecutors said.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a possible maximum life sentence in state prison.

Bail has been set at \$3 million.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, Mission Division.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety.