

*Jackie Lacey*  
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NEWS RELEASE

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## **Long Beach Man Sentenced to Jail for Killing Cat**

A 24-year-old man convicted of killing his cat was sentenced today to jail, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Last month, Steven Ullery of Long Beach pleaded guilty to a felony count of cruelty to an animal in case NA098033.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Tomson T. Ong sentenced the defendant today to two years in state prison, which will be served in county jail. The defendant was remanded into custody at the conclusion of the sentencing.

As a result of the animal cruelty conviction, Ullery cannot own, possess, reside with, or care for any animal for 10 years.

Deputy District Attorney Paul Guthrie, who prosecuted the case, said at the time of the crime Ullery was living with his wife, who owned several cats. Between March and August 2013, five of the cats died, the prosecutor said.

Two of the deceased cats were adopted from the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (spcaLA) in July 2013. When those cats died about a month later, Ullery and his wife brought the bodies back to the spcaLA requesting a refund.

Following that incident, spcaLA began an investigation and learned that in March and May 2013, Ullery and his wife presented three additional dead cats to the Uptown Animal Hospital in Long Beach. One of these cats died from blunt force trauma to the face. Another was choked to death, according to the prosecutor.

Long Beach Police arrested Ullery on Jan. 23 in connection with the animal deaths. The defendant was later released on \$60,000 bail.

The case was investigated by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles.

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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.