

# Jackie Lacey

District Attorney  
<http://da.lacounty.gov>



NEWS RELEASE

**CONTACT:**

Sarah Ardalani  
Public Information Officer  
213-974-3525  
[sardalani@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:sardalani@da.lacounty.gov)

Jan. 8, 2014

## **UPDATE: Retired Fire Captain Pleads in Child Abuse Case**

Cervantes pleaded no contest to both child sex-abuse counts before Commissioner Wade Olson, prosecutors said.

He pleaded “open” to the court, meaning the plea was not a negotiated settlement with the District Attorney’s Office.

The defendant will return to court Jan. 27 for sentencing in Department F of Los Angeles Superior Court, Pomona Branch.

## **Former Fire Captain Scheduled for Arraignment on Child Sex Abuse Charges**

A L.A. County retired fire captain will be arraigned today on child sex abuse charges, the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office announced.

Edward John Cervantes, 62 (dob 05/29/1951) of Whittier, has been charged with one count each of lewd act upon a child and continuous sexual abuse in case KA103218. He is expected to appear in Department F of Los Angeles County Superior Court, Pomona Branch.

Prosecutors said that the events surrounding the charges occurred between 2003 and 2005.

The victim, a relative of the defendant, told officials Cervantes allegedly molested her repeatedly while she was in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade, prosecutors said.

The defendant was taken into custody by the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department on Sept. 19, 2013, but released on \$250,000 bail. The case was subsequently filed on Sept. 28, 2013.

If convicted as charged, Cervantes faces a maximum sentence of 24 years in state prison.

###

**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. Annually, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.