

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged with Murder of Elderly Taxi Driver

A 32-year-old man has been charged with the murder of a taxi cab driver in downtown Los Angeles last November, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Victor Daniel Torres aka Daniel Victor Torres (dob 3/4/87), a transient, faces one count each of murder, attempted first-degree robbery on a transit operator and carjacking.

Charges include special circumstance allegations of murder during the commission of a carjacking and murder of a taxicab driver and an allegation of personally using a deadly and dangerous weapon, a box cutter.

The felony complaint also alleges Torres was convicted in 2019 for three felony vandalism counts.

Arraignment was scheduled today but continued to February 13 in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center. Case BA482694 was filed on Nov. 19, 2019.

Deputy District Attorney Miriam Avalos of the Elder Abuse Unit is assigned to the case.

On Nov. 15, 2019, Oganess Papazyan, 62, was allegedly stabbed to death in a fast food restaurant parking lot, the prosecutor said. The defendant reportedly fatally stabbed the victim shortly after the taxi driver dropped him off, the prosecutor added.

If convicted as charged, Torres faces the death penalty or life in prison without the possibility of parole. A decision on whether to seek capital punishment will be made at a later date.

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

[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 protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.