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NEWS RELEASE

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## **Two Sentenced in Setting Morris Fire**

Two men have been sentenced for setting a brush fire near the Morris Dam last year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Christopher Paul Ortega (dob 1/13/98) of Glendora and Santino Francisco Gnaulati (dob 10/1/96) of Covina pleaded no contest yesterday to one count each of recklessly causing a fire in case KA118800. Ortega was immediately sentenced to 16 months in state prison, to be served in county jail, and Gnaulati was sentenced to three years formal probation upon the condition he serve 180 days in county jail.

The two defendants started the fire near Highway 39 in the San Gabriel Mountains on Aug. 7, prosecutors said. The blaze burned nearly a quarter of an acre.

The case was investigated by the U.S. Forest Service.

### **[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.