

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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**Uber Driver to be Arraigned on Charges
of Passenger Assault, Theft**

A 46-year-old former Uber driver is scheduled to be arraigned today after being ordered to stand trial on charges that he allegedly assaulted a client with his car, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney David Berger said Phillip Reid Bagwell (dob 9/16/69) of Sherman Oaks faces one felony count each of assault with a deadly weapon, car, and attempted extortion and one misdemeanor count of petty theft.

Case SA091234 also alleges Bagwell has previously been convicted of three felonies: grand theft in 1990 and 1998, and forgery in 1991.

Arraignment is scheduled today in Department W82 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Airport Branch. The case was filed on Sept. 9 and Bagwell was ordered to stand trial on Dec. 16.

According to court testimony, Bagwell was the Uber driver for a woman traveling to a comedy club in West Hollywood on July 9. The woman forgot her cell phone in the defendant's car but managed to call the driver seeking to get her phone back, the prosecutor said.

When Bagwell returned he allegedly refused to give the phone back unless the victim paid him, the prosecutor added. The defendant then drove off, causing the victim to fall down and nearly ran her over, according to testimony at the preliminary hearing.

If convicted as charged, Bagwell faces a possible maximum sentence of four years and eight months in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, West Hollywood station.

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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. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.