

*Jackie Lacey*  
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NEWS RELEASE

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**Arcadia Man Enters Plea for Police Pursuit Crash that Killed His Passenger**

A man that led police on a pursuit which resulted in a fatal crash at a Temple City intersection pleaded no contest today to killing his passenger, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Richard John Villareal Jr. (dob 10/25/85) of Arcadia entered a no contest plea to one felony count each of gross vehicular manslaughter and evading an officer.

As a result of the negotiated plea, Villareal was immediately sentenced to 15 years and eight months in state prison.

The defendant led Arcadia Police officers on a high-speed pursuit after they attempted to pull him over for driving a stolen car near Workman and Baldwin avenues on June 2, 2014, prosecutors said. Following the pursuit, Villareal sped through a red light at the intersection of Lower Azusa Road and Arden Drive and was struck by another vehicle.

Michael Sandoval Jr., 38, who was a passenger in the stolen vehicle, died in the crash, prosecutors added.

Case GA093491 was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Tricia Taylor.

The case was investigated by the Arcadia Police Department.

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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.