

Jackie Lacey
District Attorney
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NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Greg Risling, Assistant Chief
Media Relations Division
213-257-2000
GRisling@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LADAOoffice

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La Cañada Man Sentenced For Molesting Two Children

A 46-year-old man was sentenced today to life in state prison for sexually assaulting two family members, a young boy and a girl, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Michael Dane Ward was sentenced to 98 years to life in prison by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Lisa Lench.

In September, jurors found Ward guilty of four counts of lewd act on a child, two counts of forcible lewd act on a child under 14, three counts of oral copulation of a child 10 years old or younger and one count of sodomy with a child under 10.

Deputy District Attorney Guillermo Santiso of the Sex Crimes Division prosecuted the case.

Both victims were under the age of 10 when the sexual assaults occurred between October 2013 and November 2015. The two victims testified at trial against Ward, a former Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department psychologist.

Case BA446469 was investigated by LASD's Special Victims Bureau.

[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.