

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Podiatrist Convicted for Sexually Assaulting Patients

A 70-year-old podiatrist who practiced in Torrance has entered no contest pleas for sexually assaulting four of his patients, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Arnold Lee Serkin (dob 5/13/45) of Rancho Palos Verdes entered pleaded no contest yesterday to four felony counts of sexual battery by fraud in case YA085971.

Deputy District Attorney Maren Dermody said Serkin entered the pleas open to the court, which means there was no negotiated plea agreement.

Today, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Steven Van Sicklen of the Torrance Branch sentenced the defendant to five years formal probation, 365 days of community service and one year of sexual compulsion classes.

Serkin also was ordered to stay away from the victims and will have to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life.

Female patients at Serkin's office were fondled and asked to disrobe during office visits between 2003 and 2009, the prosecutor said. The defendant claimed he was examining the rib area or measuring the patient's hips when he inappropriately touched them, the prosecutor added.

The case was investigated by the Torrance 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](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.