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Hawthorne Man Sentenced for Baby's Death

A Hawthorne man was sentenced today to 15 years in state prison for the death of his girlfriend's 14-month-old baby, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Oksana Sigal said Julio Mejia, 48, pleaded no contest on Jan. 8 to two felony counts of assault on a child causing injury and great bodily injury.

The child, identified as Bryan C. in the criminal complaint, died as a result of blunt force trauma on Aug. 25, 2013, in a Hawthorne apartment shared by the defendant, the baby's mother and two older siblings, the prosecutor said.

Case SA085101 was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and the Hawthorne Police Department.

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.