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NEWS RELEASE

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Former NFL Player Charged with Rape

Former pro football player Darren Sharper was charged today with drugging and raping two women, one in October and the other last month, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Sharper (dob 11-03-75) is scheduled to be arraigned this morning in Department 30 at the Foltz Criminal Justice Center. He is charged in case BA421442.

Deputy District Attorney Stacy Okun-Wiese with Major Crimes said Sharper is charged with two counts of rape by use of drugs, four counts of furnishing a controlled substance and one count of possession of a controlled substance, all felonies.

The complaint alleges the controlled substances were zolpidem and morphine.

Okun-Wiese will ask a judge to raise his bail to $10 million because Sharper, who lives in Miami, Fla., is suspected of raping women in Arizona, Nevada and Louisiana.

In a motion filed today to increase his bail, prosecutors said Sharper met two women at a West Hollywood nightclub on Oct. 30, 2013, and invited them to another party.

On the way, Sharper allegedly told them he had to stop by his Los Angeles hotel room to pick something up and invited both women up. While there, he allegedly gave each woman a shot. Each woman passed out. Jane Doe #1 allegedly woke up naked hours later with Sharper sexually assaulting her. The second woman allegedly awoke and "interrupted his actions," the motion states.

The two women then left the hotel.

On Jan. 14, Sharper met two separate women at the same West Hollywood nightclub and invited them to a party. Stopping at his hotel, he allegedly invited both up to his room, offered them a shot, and each passed out.

When they woke up hours later on Jan. 15, one woman believed she'd been sexually assaulted. Both women left his hotel and sought medical treatment.

Sharper was arrested Jan. 17 by Los Angeles police detectives, who are investigating the case. He was released on $200,000 bail.

If convicted, he faces more than 30 years in state prison.

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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. Annually, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.