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NEWS RELEASE

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**Man Charged with 2001 Kidnapping,
Sexual Assault of Teenage Boy in Northridge**

A 54-year-old man has been charged with sexually assaulting a boy at gunpoint nearly 16 years ago in Northridge, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Deputy District Attorney Julie Kramer said Mirek Paul Voyt (dob 10/25/62) of Los Angeles faces two felony counts: kidnapping to commit oral copulation and sodomy by force or fear; and forcible oral copulation.

The charging document includes special allegations that the defendant used a handgun during the commission of the crimes, as well as kidnapped and tied and bound the victim.

Voyt pleaded not guilty to the charges on Feb. 16. His bail was set at more than \$1 million.

The prosecutor said on June 22, 2001, the 14-year-old victim was walking with a friend near Vanalden Avenue and Chase Street when Voyt allegedly approached them, pointed a gun and forced the victim into his vehicle.

The defendant is alleged to have then taken the victim to a residence, where he tied him up and sexually assaulted him, the prosecutor added. After the attack, Voyt reportedly drove the victim to a nearby corner and dropped him off, according to the prosecutor.

The defendant is scheduled to return to court on Feb. 28 in Department S of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, San Fernando Branch.

If convicted as charged, Voyt faces a possible maximum sentence of 35 years to life in state prison.

Case PA088150 remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, Robbery-Homicide Division.

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.