

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Feb. 20, 2014

Charges Filed in Playa del Rey Gas Leak

A man was charged today with four felony counts related to a natural gas leak in the Playa del Rey area, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Assistant Head Deputy Ronald Goudy said James Viramonte Cogley, 22 (dob 5/9/91), faces one count each of attempted arson, grand theft auto, unlawful taking of a vehicle, and vandalism over \$400 in case BA421675.

Cogley pleaded not guilty to the charges and is scheduled to appear on March 14 in Department 34 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

The defendant allegedly entered a Southern California Gas Company facility on Feb. 17 and damaged some electrical panels, drove a truck that was in the facility over a gas valve, and then stole a pick-up truck and left. Goudy said the pick-up truck was found about a mile away where it had crashed against a parked car.

If convicted as charged, Cogley faces a maximum sentence of 5 years in custody. He is out on \$200,000 bail. The Los Angeles Police Department is investigating the case.

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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.