

# Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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## Man Charged With Decades-Old Murder of 11-Year-Old Inglewood Boy

A man has been charged with killing an 11-year-old boy who disappeared while walking home from an Inglewood elementary school nearly 30 years ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Edward Donell Thomas (dob 7/10/68) of Pomona was charged yesterday in case BA475163 with one count of murder as well as special circumstance allegations of murder during the commission of a kidnapping and lying in wait, making him eligible for the death penalty. He also faces one count of possession of a firearm by a felon.

Thomas made his initial court appearance yesterday but his arraignment was continued to April 4 in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

Deputy District Attorney Beth Silverman of the Major Crimes Division is prosecuting the case.

On May 24, 1990, William Tillett, 11, had been walking home from Kew Elementary School when he was kidnapped. Hours later, the boy's body was found in a carport.

If convicted as charged, Thomas faces death or life in prison without the possibility of parole. A decision on whether to seek the death penalty will be made a later date.

The case remains under investigation by the Inglewood 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.