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NEWS RELEASE

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**Murder Charge Filed in Torrance
Police Pursuit that Ended in Fatal Crash**

A San Pedro man who was out on bail for a stolen vehicle case was charged today with murder after allegedly leading police on a pursuit ending in a fatal crash in Torrance, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Zachary Thomas Alexander (dob 6/11/94) faces one felony count each of murder, fleeing a pursuing peace officer's motor vehicle causing death and driving or taking a vehicle without consent after a prior conviction.

Deputy District Attorney Lindsay Kurtis said case YA095679 included the allegation that Alexander was out on bail when he committed the crimes.

Arraignment was scheduled today and continued to March 22 in Department 4 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Torrance Branch.

On Feb. 20, police began pursuing the defendant after they allegedly spotted him driving a stolen vehicle, the prosecutor said. The chase ended when Alexander crashed into the victim's vehicle near Carson Street and Maple Avenue, the prosecutor added. The driver in that vehicle, Charles Wang, 56, died at the scene.

The felony complaint includes the allegations that Alexander was convicted twice last year for driving or taking a vehicle without consent and for possession for sale of methamphetamine, receiving stolen property exceeding \$950 in 2014 and sale or offer to sell or transportation of methamphetamine in 2013.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a possible maximum sentence of 33 years to life in state prison. Bail was set at more than \$2 million.

The case remains under investigation by the Torrance 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.