

*Jackie Lacey*  
District Attorney  
<http://da.lacounty.gov>



NEWS RELEASE

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**Transient Charged with Murdering  
Elderly La Verne Couple for Cell Phone**

A 23-year-old transient was charged today with capital murder for bludgeoning an elderly La Verne couple to death shortly after Christmas in 2014 and stealing the wife's cell phone, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Luke Mathew Fabela (dob 2/26/92) is scheduled to be arraigned today in Department N at the Pomona Branch of the Los Angeles County Superior Court in case KA111723. Prosecutors will ask that he be held without bail.

Deputy District Attorney Tannaz Mokayef with the Major Crimes Division is prosecuting the case.

Fabela is charged with the Dec. 26, 2014, murders of Shirley Isom, 74, and Armie "Troy" Isom, 89. Both died of blunt force trauma. In addition, she sustained sharp force trauma, Mokayef said. Their bodies were discovered at their hillside estate on Roughrider Road.

The prosecutor said the only thing taken was Shirley Isom's cell phone. DNA led authorities to Fabela.

He is charged with two counts of murder with the special circumstance of multiple murders in the commission of a robbery; one count of second-degree robbery; and one count first-degree residential burglary. The complaint also has a personal use of a deadly weapon allegation. Prosecutors will decide later whether to seek the death penalty against Fabela.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

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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. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.