

# Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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## Drug Counselor Sentenced to 25 Years to Life in Prison for DUI Death of Pedestrian

A former substance abuse counselor was sentenced today to 25 years to life in prison for the hit-and-run killing of a pedestrian who was embedded in her vehicle's windshield for two miles, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Sherri Lynn Wilkins, 55, was sentenced by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Henry Hall after she pleaded no contest to one count each of second-degree murder, DUI causing injury and driving with a blood alcohol level of .08 percent or higher causing injury.

Wilkins also admitted an allegation of causing great bodily injury. The plea was made open to the court with no prior negotiation from the District Attorney's Office.

Wilkins was found guilty by a jury on Feb. 4, 2014, of the same three counts and one count of leaving the scene of an accident. A retrial was scheduled on the three felony counts for which the defendant pleaded today after an appellate court reversed those three convictions.

On Nov. 24, 2012, Phillip Moreno, 31, was walking on Torrance Boulevard near Madrid Avenue when he was struck by a car driven by Wilkins.

Wilkins continued to drive for two miles with Moreno, who was still alive, on her windshield. She was forced to stop after witnesses surrounded her car and detained her until police arrived. Moreno later died at an area hospital.

The case was investigated 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.