

*Jackie Lacey*  
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NEWS RELEASE

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## **Pest Exterminator Receives Two-Year Prison Term For Scamming Elderly Clients**

An unlicensed pest exterminator was sentenced today to two years in state prison for charging elderly clients fees for work that was never done, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Eldad Syton, 33, and Yair Zilberman, 31, pleaded no contest in October 2014 to one count each of residential burglary and three counts of theft from an elder. Both men received two-year prison terms and a restitution hearing is scheduled for March 18.

Deputy District Attorney Michelle Dodd of the Elder Abuse Section said Syton had pest exterminator contracts with elderly clients that had a set fee but he later claimed there were additional problems with the victims' homes. Syton then would enter into a new contract for large amounts of money for work never performed, the prosecutor said.

Zilberman, an unlicensed air-quality contractor, convinced seniors of other problems in their homes, charging them thousands of dollars for work that was never done, the prosecutor added.

Total losses were estimated at more than \$350,000.

The case was investigated by multiple agencies including the California Department of Consumer Affairs, the Los Angeles Police Department, the Burbank Police Department, the Whittier Police Department and the Santa Monica Police 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.