

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Sylmar Man Sentenced for Killing Wife of 25 Years

A Sylmar man was sentenced to 35 years to life in state prison for killing his 45-year-old wife at their home, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

On Dec. 9, 2015, a jury found Albino Topete Morales, 60, guilty of one count each of first-degree murder with a handgun use allegation and shooting at an inhabited dwelling in case PA081563.

Deputy District Attorney Ani Bailey said Morales wrongfully believed his wife of 25 years, Maria M., was cheating on him. On Aug. 11, 2014, the defendant shot her to death at their home on Herron Street, the prosecutor said.

According to evidence presented at the six-day long trial, during the shooting bullets went through multiple walls at the neighbor's house, going over their heads while they watched TV, the prosecutor added.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Mission Division.

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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 protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.