

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



NEWS RELEASE

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**Unlicensed Consultant Pleads Guilty  
in Immigration Fraud Case**

A 50-year-old Compton man who claimed he could help immigrants with their legal issues pleaded guilty today to stealing more than \$25,000, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Francisco Arevalo pleaded guilty to two counts of grand theft and was immediately sentenced to 16 months in county jail by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge David Horwitz, who also ordered the defendant to pay \$26,700 in restitution.

Deputy District Attorney Leonard Torrealba of the Consumer Protection Division prosecuted the case. Between 2014 and 2015, Arevalo offered immigration services and received payment from his victims but the work was never done, Torrealba said. Although the victims demanded the return of their money, Arevalo did not comply.

Arevalo was arrested in January.

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