

Jackie Lacey

District Attorney

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NEWS RELEASE

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LAPD Officers Sentenced to 25 Years in Prison For On-Duty Sexual Assaults

Two Los Angeles Police Department officers were sentenced today to 25 years in prison after pleading no contest to sexually assaulting four women, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

James Nichols, 46, and Luis Valenzuela, 45, pleaded no contest to two counts each of forcible rape and forcible oral copulation. They were immediately sentenced by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Ronald Coen, who ordered lifetime sex registration for both defendants.

Deputy District Attorneys Ann Marie Wise and Dan Akemon of the Justice System Integrity Division prosecuted the case.

After becoming partners, the two officers sexually assaulted women at various locations between 2008 and 2011. All four women, who ranged in age from 19 to 34, were involved in narcotics-related investigations with the officers when they were assaulted.

Case BA444092 was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department's Robbery-Homicide Division.

[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.