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NEWS RELEASE

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West Covina Woman Pleads Not Guilty in Hit-and-Run Case

A woman accused of hitting an elderly lady with her car as she crossed the street pleaded not guilty today to several charges, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Janet Ngo Bowman (dob 10/17/81), of West Covina, was arraigned on one felony count of leaving the scene of an accident, one misdemeanor count of vehicular manslaughter and one misdemeanor count of being an unlicensed driver in case GA092477.

The defendant appeared before Judge Steven Sanora at the Los Angeles County Superior Court in El Monte.

Prosecutors said on Dec. 29, 2013, at about 6:30 p.m., Bowman was driving home from a restaurant when she reportedly struck the victim with her car in Rosemead.

The victim, Qingrong Chai, 69, died immediately from the impact, prosecutors said. Although other cars stopped to help the elderly woman, Bowman continued driving.

A day after the fatal collision, Bowman turned herself in to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, prosecutors said.

The defendant's next court appearance is scheduled for April 1 at the El Monte court. If convicted as charged, Bowman faces a maximum sentence of five years and six months in state prison.

The case was investigated by the 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 seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.