

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Juniper Hills Man Sentenced for Having Fighting Roosters

A Juniper Hills man was sentenced late yesterday in an animal cruelty case involving several gamecocks, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Deputy District Attorney Daniel Rochmes said José Plascencia, 47, pleaded no contest to five misdemeanor counts of possession of a bird for fighting.

Judge Carol Koppel of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Antelope Valley Branch, sentenced Plascencia to four years summary probation, 34 days in county jail, 24 sessions of animal cruelty counseling and 10 days community labor.

The defendant also was ordered to not possess any fowl or other animals, and to pay police and animal control agencies for their involvement in the case. A restitution hearing is scheduled on April 25 in Department A5.

On Jan. 19, acting on a tip, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and the Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control searched Plascencia's property on Maypath Road in Juniper Hills. The prosecutor said they found 15 roosters and 12 hens. Thirteen of the roosters were in "fighting trim" with their combs and wattles cut to prevent injuries during a fight, and their spurs filed down so blades could be attached.

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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.