

Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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Transient Charged with Shooting at Venice Bar

A homeless man has been charged with shooting a man during an argument at a Venice bar, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Robert Leo Mewhorter (dob 8/10/71) faces one count of attempted murder with allegations of use of a handgun and causing great bodily injury.

The defendant pleaded not guilty yesterday and is scheduled back for a preliminary hearing setting on April 11 in Department W31 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Airport Branch.

On March 7, Mewhorter allegedly got into an argument at a Venice bar, prosecutors said. The defendant left and reportedly returned soon after and opened fire, injuring the victim, prosecutors added.

Mewhorter faces a possible maximum sentence of 34 years to life in state prison if convicted as charged. Bail was set at \$2 million.

Case SA097575 remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, Pacific 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.