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NEWS RELEASE

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**Man Sentenced to Prison for Decade-Old Murder  
and 2014 Domestic Violence Assault**

A 44-year-old man was sentenced today to 53 years to life in state prison for murdering an acquaintance more than a decade ago and brutally assaulting his girlfriend in 2014, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

On Feb. 18, a jury found Allis Troy Coleman (dob 4/24/71) guilty of five felony counts in case TA133501: first-degree murder, assault with a firearm, possession of a firearm by a felon, making criminal threats and possession of ammunition.

Jurors also found true a special allegation that the defendant personally and intentionally discharged a handgun, which caused great bodily injury and death.

Deputy District Attorneys Paul Thompson and R.J. Dreiling co-prosecuted Coleman's case that included crimes that spanned more than nine years.

According to prosecutors, on May 24, 2014, Coleman and his girlfriend were at the woman's home when the defendant began to punch the victim and pull her hair.

Coleman then pulled out a handgun and pushed the barrel of the gun against the woman's body while making repeated threats at her, prosecutors added.

The victim was able to calm the defendant down and gather her family so that they could leave the home, prosecutors said. The woman's daughter then called 911.

When authorities arrived at the home, they found two loaded handguns in a hamper in the victim's bedroom along with loose ammunition, prosecutors said. Coleman was arrested at the home and charged in connection with the incident.

As prosecutors began to examine the domestic violence case, they discovered Coleman had been charged in connection with the murder of Semaj Henry in 2005. However, the case was dismissed in February 2006 due to a ruling by the court that the defendant's two separate murder confessions were inadmissible, including one that was given to Coleman's wife at the time.

Prosecutors continued to review the case and with the assistance of investigators from the District Attorney's Bureau of Investigation, were able to locate three new witnesses who could testify to Coleman fatally shooting Henry.

In May 2015, prosecutors recharged Coleman with Henry's murder and consolidated the murder charge with the domestic violence case.

At the February 2016 trial, prosecutors argued that Coleman and Henry were acquaintances at the time of the homicide.

Prosecutors said on June 20, 2005, Coleman shot Henry in the back and elbow as the victim sat in a Ford Explorer. The defendant then pushed Henry's body out of the car and left him for dead in a South Los Angeles residential cul de sac before he fled the scene in the vehicle, prosecutors added.

Also during the murder retrial, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Kelvin D. Filer made a ruling allowing the jury to hear the 2005 murder confession made by Coleman to his now ex-wife.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Bureau of Investigation and the Los Angeles Police 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.