

*Jackie Lacey*  
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NEWS RELEASE

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**Long Beach Man Pleads in Attempted Robbery Case**

A Long Beach man accused of trying to rob a taxi driver pleaded no contest yesterday, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Enrique Junior Cervantes, 21, was convicted of attempted first-degree robbery of a transit operator. The defendant also admitted an allegation that he personally used a firearm. Cervantes was immediately sentenced to 13 years in state prison by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Laura Laesecke.

Prosecutors said on Feb. 3 Cervantes was a passenger in a taxi cab in Long Beach. During the ride, the defendant produced a handgun and attempted to rob the cab driver.

The victim smacked the handgun towards the dashboard, at which point the gun went off, prosecutors added. Cervantes reportedly exited the car and the driver drove to a nearby gas station where he reported the crime. The cab driver suffered minor injuries.

Several weeks later, Cervantes was arrested in connection with the incident.

The case was investigated by the Long Beach 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 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.