

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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**Covina Man Pleads Not Guilty to
Attempted Murder, Other Charges**

A Covina man accused of breaking into a house and attempting to assault the homeowner pleaded not guilty yesterday, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jeffrey Benjamin Jimenez, 37 (dob 1/11/77), was arraigned on one count each of attempted murder, first-degree burglary with person present and vandalism with over \$400 damage in case KA105077.

The defendant appeared at the Los Angeles County Superior Court in West Covina and his bail was set at \$1.7 million.

Additionally, the felony complaint alleges that Cervantes was convicted of methamphetamine possession for sale in 1999 and burglary in 2001, 2005 and 2010.

Prosecutors said the victim was in his home on March 15 when Jimenez reportedly walked through the front door holding a metal rod.

The homeowner told Jimenez to leave and the defendant exited the house. Soon after, Jimenez allegedly returned to the house and kicked in the front door, prosecutors said.

Jimenez reportedly tried to stab the homeowner with the metal rod, but the victim was able to distance himself with a table. At some point, the defendant exited the home and then smashed the home's windows before he ultimately left the scene, according to prosecutors.

Later that day, Covina police apprehended Jimenez and took him into custody.

The defendant's next court date is scheduled for March 28 for a preliminary hearing at the Los Angeles County Superior Court, West Covina Branch in Department 11.

If convicted as charged, Jimenez faces a maximum sentence of 36 years to life in state prison.

The case was investigated by the Covina 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.