

Jackie Lacey
District Attorney
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NEWS RELEASE

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Los Angeles Man Pleads to Animal Cruelty Charge

A Los Angeles man accused of brutally beating his dog pleaded no contest today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Eric James Fowler, 40, was convicted of one felony count of cruelty to an animal. The defendant is expected to be sentenced to 365 days in county jail and three years probation on June 18 at the Metropolitan Courthouse, said Deputy District Attorney Cindy Waterman.

The prosecutor said on March 5 sheriff deputies were driving through an unincorporated area of Los Angeles when they allegedly observed Fowler kicking and stomping on a white object.

As the deputies got closer to Fowler, they saw the white object was a dog, the prosecutor added. The deputies intervened and yelled at Fowler to stop.

Fowler ceased beating the dog and the canine laid motionless, Waterman said. After some time, the dog woke up, struggled to its feet and was led by the deputies to the patrol car.

Immediately after the incident, the defendant was arrested. The dog was taken to a shelter for medical treatment, where it remains waiting to be adopted.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's 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.