

Jackie Lacey
District Attorney
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NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Jane Robison
Sr. Public Information Officer
213-974-3525
JRobison@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LADAOoffice

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Disbarred Attorney Sentenced to Prison

A disbarred attorney who admitted stealing more than \$3 million from clients, including the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, was sentenced today to 10 years in state prison and ordered to pay restitution, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

James Vincent Reiss, 52, was ordered to pay \$2.47 million to the MTA and \$511,607 to a former client, said Deputy District Attorney Amy Pellman Pentz with the Justice System Integrity Division.

Reiss, who pleaded no contest to two counts of grand theft, was under contract with MTA to handle their general liability claims. Between 2010 and 2011, he received nearly \$2 million in fraudulent reimbursements from MTA, Pentz said.

As part of his March 11 plea, Reiss also admitted stealing money from a former client by settling an insurance lawsuit and pocketing the settlement money, Pentz said.

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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.