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NEWS RELEASE

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“Bomber Robber” Sentenced in Jewelry Theft Case

A man dubbed the “Bomber Robber” because he tried to rob a Santa Monica jewelry store by threatening to blow it up has been sentenced to two years in state prison, the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office announced today.

Deputy District Attorney Daniel Merrick said Robert Abalov (dob 10/25/85) of Los Angeles was sentenced yesterday immediately after pleading no contest to one count of attempted second-degree robbery.

On Feb. 28, 2018, the defendant entered a store on the 1600 block of Montana Avenue and ordered the owner to give him her jewelry while threatening to detonate a bomb that turned out to be fake, the prosecutor said. Once the woman managed to escape the store, Abalov drove off and crashed into a vehicle near 15th Street and Carlyle Avenue, the prosecutor added.

A 69-year-old woman was injured in the crash. The defendant then fled on foot and eluded capture until his arrest three months later.

Case SA097669 was investigated by the Santa Monica Police Department.

[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.