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NEWS RELEASE

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**Man Sentenced to Prison for
Child Abuse, Assault, Dissuading a Witness**

A 26-year-old man was sentenced yesterday to 21 years in state prison after he was convicted of seriously injuring a toddler and physically assaulting the child's mother, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

At yesterday's court appearance, Javier Zamora (dob 4/6/88) pleaded no contest to eight felonies: two counts of child abuse, two counts of dissuading a witness by force or threat, three counts of intimidation of witness and one count of injuring a child's parent in case TA134029.

Additionally, the defendant admitted special allegations that he personally inflicted great bodily injury to the child victim, who was under the age of 5 years when the crime occurred.

Deputy District Attorney Miguel Espinoza, who prosecuted the case, said at the time of the crime, Zamora was in a relationship with the 3-year-old boy's mother for several years. The defendant lived with her, the toddler and two of his biological children in a mobile home in Los Angeles.

On June 3, 2014, Zamora reportedly slammed the toddler's head into a wall while the mother was taking a shower. When the mother returned, it was clear the 3-year-old was severely injured, the prosecutor said. However, Zamora discouraged the child's mother to seek immediate medical attention.

When the pair finally went to the hospital, Zamora made the mother provide a false statement about how the child sustained his injury, the prosecutor said.

Due to the severity of the boy's injuries, he remained hospitalized for continuous medical care.

Three weeks after the incident, Zamora punched the child's mother, which resulted in a black eye, the prosecutor said. After the assault, Zamora prevented her from calling police.

Several days after the second assault, authorities arrested Zamora and he was charged in connection with the crimes.

Evidence gathered during the investigation indicated Zamora had been violent with the child in the past, the prosecutor added.

Even though the now 4-year-old child is alive, the prosecutor said, he sustained critical injuries during his assault. The boy is now paralyzed, unresponsive and remains in a vegetative state.

On Feb. 2, the child's mother, Hope Beltran (dob 10/11/92), pleaded no contest to a felony count of child abuse in case TA135188. Beltran was charged because she exposed her child to regular abuse at the hands of Zamora, the prosecutor said.

Beltran was sentenced a year in county jail and ordered to complete a one-year residential treatment program following her release from custody.

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. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.