

Jackie Lacey
District Attorney
<http://da.lacounty.gov>



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Ricardo Santiago
Public Information Officer
213-257-2000
RSantiago@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LADAOoffice

April 4, 2019

Man Sentenced for Robbery, Assault in Long Beach Attack

A 41-year-old man was sentenced yesterday to 18 years in state prison for stealing a woman's purse following an assault and then attacking her husband two years ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Rodrnick Smith entered an open no contest plea on Nov. 29, 2018, to one felony count each of second-degree robbery, assault with a deadly weapon, a vehicle, and assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily injury.

An open plea is a plea not negotiated with prosecutors.

Smith also admitted inflicting great bodily injury on the female victim during the commission of the robbery.

On April 13, 2017, the defendant was driving his vehicle in a Long Beach parking lot when he rear-ended another motorist. Smith and the female driver of the other vehicle pulled over to exchange information, prosecutors said.

When the woman called her husband to obtain additional information about the car, the defendant punched her repeatedly, prosecutors added.

Following the assault, Smith grabbed the woman's purse, returned to his vehicle and attempted to leave. When the victim's husband drove to the scene to help his wife, Smith rammed his car into the man's vehicle, according to prosecutors.

The defendant fled the scene but was located five days later and arrested in connection with the attack.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Peggy Kane.

Case NA106252 was investigated by the Long Beach 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.