

# Jackie Lacey

District Attorney  
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NEWS RELEASE

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## Man Sentenced to Prison for Carjacking, Evading Police in 2013

A 43-year-old man was sentenced today to 21 years in state prison for arming himself with an assault rifle, committing a carjacking and leading police on a pursuit, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

At today's court appearance, Robert Charles Maalea pleaded no contest to four counts in case NAO97871 in an open plea to the court: carjacking; evading an officer, willful disregard; possession of a firearm with prior violent conviction; and possession of an assault weapon.

The open plea means a sentence was not negotiated with the District Attorney's Office.

Maalea's co-defendant and half-brother, Alexander Russell Smith, 25, pleaded no contest to one count of possession of an assault weapon. He was sentenced on July 24, 2014, to three years of summary probation.

Deputy District Attorney Rachel Bodley, who prosecuted the case, said that on Dec. 30, 2013, Maalea armed himself with an AR-15 assault rifle and carjacked a vehicle in Long Beach.

Authorities were called and police located the defendant, however, Maalea led them on a chase and eventually crashed the vehicle. The defendant was subsequently apprehended by authorities and taken into custody, the prosecutor added.

During the investigation, police discovered Smith was the owner of the assault rifle, according to the prosecutor.

The case 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.