

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Arcadia Man Charged with Rape, Kidnapping, Assault

A 29-year-old man accused of kidnapping a woman from the street and raping her over many hours was charged today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Philippe Mengi Brian Lutete (dob 10/12/85) of Arcadia was originally charged in case GA095586 with false imprisonment by violence and sexual battery by restraint. Today prosecutors amended the felony complaint to include five additional charges: two counts of forcible rape and one count each of kidnapping to commit rape, forcible oral copulation and assault with intent to commit rape.

Additionally, the charging document includes special allegations that the defendant personally used a dangerous and deadly weapon, and that he committed great bodily injury during the commission of the crime.

The defendant was scheduled to be arraigned today on the new charges, but the appearance was continued to May 19 at the Los Angeles County Superior Court in Alhambra, Department 5.

At today's court hearing, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Michael Villalobos set the defendant's bail at \$3.25 million.

Deputy District Attorney Rena Durrant, who is assigned to the case, said on Nov. 26, 2014, the defendant reportedly met a woman in La Puente and brought her back to his home in unincorporated Arcadia.

While there, Lutete allegedly tried to sexually assault the victim, however she managed to escape through a second story window and call 911, the prosecutor said.

After several months of investigation, authorities were able to identify Lutete as the possible assailant and charged him on Jan. 26, the prosecutor added.

Following his arrest, the defendant posted bond and was released from jail.

The prosecutor said on April 8 the defendant allegedly kidnapped a woman from a main thoroughfare street and took her back to his home. While there, Lutete reportedly raped the second victim over many hours.

At some point, the victim was able to get the attention of a neighbor, who called sheriff deputies, the prosecutor said.

When authorities arrived, they broke down Lutete's door and recovered the victim. Meanwhile, the defendant escaped his home through a window.

Following a containment of the area, sheriff deputies located and arrested Lutete.

If convicted as charged the defendant faces a maximum sentence of life in state prison.

The case is being 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.