

Jackie Lacey

District Attorney
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NEWS RELEASE

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Doctor Pleads, Sentenced to Prison For Sexually Molesting Patients

A Montebello doctor pleaded no contest today to two counts of felony sexual battery involving two patients, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

A jury earlier convicted Arturo Vargas, 44, of two counts of felony sexual exploitation by a physician involving two separate victims.

Vargas, who has been in custody since February, was sentenced today to five years in state prison and ordered to register as a sex offender for life.

Deputy District Attorney Martha Carrillo prosecuted the case.

A jury on Feb. 10 convicted Vargas of two counts of sexual exploitation of a victim involving two victims. But the jury hung on other counts. His plea today came during a pretrial conference before Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Curtis Rappe.

The case was investigated by the Montebello Police 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](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.