

Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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Canyon Country Man Pleads to Killing His Father

A Canyon Country man pleaded no contest today to one count of second-degree murder for the killing of his 53-year-old father, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Nathan Bartos said Juan Alexander Mejía (dob 10/25/82) faces 15-years-to-life in state prison as a result of his plea in case PA076988.

A sentencing hearing is scheduled on June 5 in Department E of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, San Fernando Branch.

The defendant's father, Juan Mejía, slept inside his garage with the door locked because of his son's previous violent outbursts, according to court testimony. On May 16, 2013, the son came home drunk, kicked the garage door open and shot his father once in the head killing him, the prosecutor said.

According to evidence presented in court, Mejía admitted pointing the gun at his father but claimed to have fired by accident. After the shooting, the defendant fled the scene and buried the weapon in a riverbed, the prosecutor added.

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](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.