

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



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Ricardo Santiago
Public Information Officer
213-974-3525
RSantiago@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LADAOoffice

April 15, 2015

**Driver Charged With DUI Crash Into Lancaster Home,
Killing Elderly Woman**

A Lancaster man was arraigned today for charges of crashing into a Lancaster home killing a 71-year-old woman who was in her bedroom, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Sun Chung said Aaron Daniel Benson (dob 6/24/89) pleaded not guilty to one count each of murder, gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, driving under the influence of alcohol causing injury within 10 years of another DUI offense and driving with a .08% blood alcohol content causing injury within 10 years of another DUI offense in case MA065673.

A preliminary hearing is scheduled on April 29 in Department A02 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Antelope Valley Branch.

On March 29, Benson is accused of driving under the influence on West Avenue J-12 and then crashing into Patricia Ann Holmes' bedroom, killing her, the prosecutor said. The complaint alleges Benson had a DUI conviction in 2011.

Bail has been set at \$1 million. If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a possible maximum sentence of 15 years to life in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Lancaster Station.

###

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.