

*Jackie Lacey*  
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NEWS RELEASE

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**Driver Speeding in Stolen Car Sentenced  
for Murder of Teenage Pedestrian**

A man who ran over a 15-year-old pedestrian in West Los Angeles while attempting to escape from police was sentenced today to 27 years and 8 months to life in state prison, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Paul Randolph Brumfield Jr. (dob 8/19/66) was found guilty on March 24 of one count each of second-degree murder; driving or taking a vehicle without consent; gross vehicular manslaughter with an allegation of leaving the scene; and hit-and-run driving resulting in death.

The 13-day long trial was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Eva Jabber Stodel.

On Nov. 15, 2015, Brumfield was driving a stolen vehicle while being followed by police officer waiting for back-up before pulling him over, the prosecutor said. According to evidence presented at the trial, the defendant then accelerated to approximately 90 miles-per-hour and ran over victim Jack Phoenix as he crossed the street at Venice Blvd and Hughes Avenue.

The impact of the crash decapitated the victim and the defendant immediately fled the scene without braking, the prosecutor added. The defendant's stolen car was located four days later with the victim's head inside, covered by a comforter, according to witness testimony.

Brumfield was arrested the day after the crash for an unrelated car burglary. Witness statements, DNA evidence and cell phone records all helped prove that he was responsible for the fatal crash, the prosecutor said.

Case SA092218 was investigated by the Los Angeles 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.