

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



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Ricardo Santiago
Public Information Officer
213-257-2000
RSantiago@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LADAOOffice

April 26, 2018

Gang Member Sentenced for Beating of Homeless Man

A gang member was sentenced today to nine years in state prison for waging an unprovoked attack on a homeless man in Venice, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Apolinar Celestino Lopez, 35, pleaded no contest on June 12, 2017, to assault with a deadly weapon, a folding chair and a pipe, and possession for sale of cocaine.

Deputy District Attorney Eugene Hanrahan said Lopez also admitted the allegations that he used deadly and dangerous weapons and that the offense was committed for the benefit of a criminal street gang.

The assault with the chair and a pipe on Sept. 25, 2014, was captured on video. During the attack, the defendant called himself Polo and stated he was a member of "Venice Gang."

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Pacific Division.

[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.