

Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged With 1985 Murder of TV Producer

A man has been charged with the killing of television producer and director Barry Crane more than three decades ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Edwin Jerry Hiatt II (dob 7/26/66) was charged in case LA090441 with one count of murder with a special allegation that he used a deadly and dangerous weapon, a heavy decorative object, during the commission of the crime. The case was filed for warrant on May 3.

Arraignment will be scheduled for a later date.

Deputy District Attorney Beth Silverman of the Major Crimes Division is prosecuting the case.

On or about July 5, 1985, Crane was murdered in his Studio City home. A housekeeper found the 57-year-old who was bludgeoned by a large ceramic statue, the prosecutor said. The victim also had a telephone cord wrapped around his neck.

DNA evidence linked Hiatt to the crime, the prosecutor added.

Hiatt was arrested this week in North Carolina and he is awaiting extradition.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a possible maximum sentence of life in prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department's Robbery-Homicide 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.