

Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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“Healer” Charged with Sexual Abuse of a Minor

A 32-year-old Pico Rivera man who identified himself as a “healer” was charged today with sexual assault, the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office announced.

At today’s arraignment, Claudio Rafael Gonzales (dob 10/1/82) pleaded not guilty to two counts: sexual penetration by foreign object and sexual battery in case VA139095.

Prosecutors said on May 7, a family visited Gonzales’ Pico Rivera home so that he could heal their teenage daughter’s physical ailment.

During the defendant’s examination of the girl, he allegedly sexually assaulted her several times, prosecutors said.

Soon after the visit, the girl revealed to authorities what occurred and Gonzales was subsequently arrested in connection with the incident.

Gonzales is scheduled to return to court for a preliminary hearing setting on June 8 in Department J of the Los Angeles County Superior Court in Norwalk.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a possible maximum sentence of more than three years in state prison.

The case is being 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](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.