

*Jackie Lacey*  
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NEWS RELEASE

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**West Covina Man Charged With Attacking Officer**

A 24-year-old man accused of dousing himself in gasoline and attacking a police officer pleaded not guilty today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Juan Carlos Urrutia (dob 12/9/89), of West Covina, was arraigned on one felony count each of assault upon a peace officer and resisting an executive officer in case KA105818.

Urrutia appeared before Judge Tia Fisher at the Los Angeles County Superior Court in West Covina. His bail was set at \$75,000.

Prosecutors said in the morning of May 10, Urrutia reportedly saturated himself with gasoline and walked into traffic. Authorities were called and they attempted to approach the defendant, prosecutors said.

Urrutia began tussling with two police officers, prosecutors said. As one officer tried to put the defendant into handcuffs, Urrutia allegedly bit him.

Following the scuffle, the defendant was taken into custody and charged this morning.

Urrutia's next court appearance is scheduled for May 28 for a pre-preliminary hearing at the West Covina Courthouse in Department 4. If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a maximum sentence of 5 years and eight months in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the West Covina Police 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 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.