

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged with Murder After Hacienda Heights Car Crash

An 18-year-old motorist has been charged in connection with a fatal car crash that killed a Hacienda Heights mother and severely injured her two sons, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Aron Harutun Petrosian (dob 3/14/97) of Hacienda Heights pleaded not guilty yesterday to one count of murder and two counts of reckless driving on a highway causing injury in case KA109617.

The felony complaint includes a special allegation that the defendant committed great bodily injury during the commission of the crime.

Deputy District Attorney Sandra Jimenez, who is assigned to the case, said on Dec. 17, 2014, Petrosian was driving his vehicle at a high rate of speed when he crashed into a car driven by Bertha Alicia Rosales, 42. Rosales' two sons, ages 13 and 10, were also in the vehicle, the prosecutor said.

Following the collision, Rosales was taken to the hospital for medical treatment, but ultimately succumbed to her injuries.

The victim's 13-year-old son suffered substantial head trauma, while the 10-year-old is now physically disabled on the right side of his body, the prosecutor said. Both children will require significant medical assistance for the rest of their lives, she added.

On April 30, law enforcement arrested Petrosian. The defendant posted bond and is currently out of custody.

Petrosian is scheduled to return to court on July 24 for a preliminary hearing setting in Department N of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Pomona Branch.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a possible maximum sentence of 25 years to life in state prison.

The case is being investigated by the California Highway Patrol.

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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.