

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Man Pleads to Murder for Fatal DUI Crash

A North Hills man entered a no contest plea today for driving under the influence when he crashed head-on into another vehicle, killing a baby girl, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Deputy District Attorney Sheetal Jhala said Julian Gutierrez, 26, entered the plea to one count of second-degree murder.

Gutierrez was immediately sentenced to 15 years to life in state prison.

On May 26, 2017, Gutierrez was driving a 2010 Nissan Altima when it veered onto incoming traffic near Fulton Avenue and Hatteras Street in Van Nuys. The defendant crashed head-on into a 1997 Acura Integra driven by a woman who was 8-months pregnant, the prosecutor said.

The pregnant driver of the Integra was rushed to the hospital where she delivered a baby girl. However, the baby died soon after birth, according to the prosecutor.

It was later determined the defendant was under the influence of cocaine and had a blood alcohol level of .16 at the time of the crash, the prosecutor added.

Case LA086117 was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Valley Traffic 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.