

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Former Actor Convicted of Wife's Murder

A former actor was convicted today of gunning down his wife at their Los Angeles home in front of the couple's two young sons, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

A jury of six women and six men deliberated about two hours before finding Michael Andrew Jace, 53, guilty of the second-degree murder of April Jace on May 19, 2014. Jurors also found true the special allegation that Jace personally used a firearm.

Deputy District Attorney Tannaz Mokayef with the Major Crimes Division prosecuted the case.

The actor, who portrayed a police officer in "The Shield," was upset his wife wanted a divorce and was obsessed with the belief that she was seeing someone else, Mokayef told jurors in opening statements. Jace waited in their home in the 5400 block of Brynhurst Avenue and when April came home around 8 p.m., he shot her once in the back, the prosecutor said.

Jace shot her two more times in the legs in front of their sons, who were 8 and 5 at the time.

The defendant then called 911 at about 8:30 p.m. and told the operator he shot his wife, according to evidence presented at trial. Her body was found inside the couple's home along with their two children, who were unharmed.

Jace, who has remained in custody since his arrest, returns to Department 104 on June 10 for sentencing in case BA424932. He faces 40 years to life in state prison.

The Los Angeles Police Department investigated the case.

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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 protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.