

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Woman Sentenced to Three Years in Prison in Elder Theft Case

A woman was sentenced today to three years in state prison after pleading no contest to stealing money and other assets from an elderly couple and a nonagenarian, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Vacie Thomas, 62, also was ordered by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge James Dabney to pay more than \$100,000 in restitution.

Thomas pleaded no contest to two counts of theft from an elder and admitted an allegation that she committed two felonies through fraud or embezzlement with a cumulative loss more than \$100,000.

Deputy District Attorney Tina Hooks with the Elder Abuse Section said Thomas befriended Ola and Clyde Griffith while working as an executive assistant at NAACP's Los Angeles office and added her name as a joint tenant to their home worth \$1 million. She also forged numerous checks to pay off personal loans and credit card bills, the prosecutor said. The losses totaled more than \$180,000.

Thomas also stole about \$13,000 from 97-year-old Trandailer Brewer between 2008 and 2011, the prosecutor said.

The case was 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 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.