

Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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Jurors Recommend Death for “Grim Sleeper” Serial Killer

The same jury that found Lonnie David Franklin Jr. guilty of killing nine young women and a teenage girl over a 22-year period today recommended that he be sentenced to death, the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office announced.

The jury of seven women and five men deliberated about eight hours before returning their verdict in the penalty phase. Franklin, 63, returns to court on Aug. 10 for sentencing before Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Kathleen Kennedy in case BA382700.

Deputy District Attorney Beth Silverman of the Major Crimes Division and Deputy District Attorney Marguerite Rizzo of the Forensic Science Section prosecuted the case.

During the penalty phase, prosecutors called a woman from Germany who was kidnapped and raped by Franklin and two Army buddies on April 17, 1974. Prosecutors also introduced evidence tying Franklin to four additional murders of women between 1984 and 2006.

Jurors found the former city sanitation worker guilty on May 5 of all 10 counts of first-degree murder with the special circumstance of multiple murders to be true. Jurors also found Franklin guilty of one count of attempted, willful, deliberate and premeditated murder.

Franklin was arrested on July 7, 2010, by the Los Angeles Police Department after a lengthy task force investigation.

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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.

