

# Jackie Lacey

District Attorney  
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NEWS RELEASE

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## Former Child Psychologist Convicted in Case Involving Lewd Acts with Minors

A former child psychologist was convicted yesterday of inappropriately touching children during therapy sessions, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Thomas Gary Amberson, 58, of Upland pleaded no contest to two felony counts of lewd act upon a child before Judge George Genesta of the Los Angeles County Superior Court in Pomona. After the plea, Amberson was immediately remanded into custody.

The defendant is expected to be sentenced July 16 to eight years in state prison. Also, Amberson will have to register as a sex offender for life.

Deputy District Attorney Cynthia Valenzuela, who prosecuted the case, said one of Amberson's patients revealed to his parents that the defendant touched him inappropriately during therapy sessions in 2010.

The parents contacted law enforcement and an investigation revealed that Amberson also had sexually abused another patient in 2007.

Both victims were under the age of 13 years old when the crimes occurred.

The case was investigated by the Claremont Police 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.