



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE MEDIA RELATIONS DIVISION

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Wrong-way Driver Charged with Murder

Los Angeles County prosecutors today charged a wrong-way driver with two counts of murder and other charges after he slammed his pickup truck into oncoming traffic early Saturday morning.

Bradford Pate, 38 (dob 4-9-75), also was charged with gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, DUI causing injury and DUI over .08 percent alcohol causing injury in case PA077323. Pate, who remains hospitalized, is expected to be arraigned sometime Thursday at Los Angeles Superior Court, San Fernando Branch, Department S.

Pate allegedly entered the northbound lanes of the Antelope Valley Freeway heading southbound shortly before 3:30 a.m. Saturday. His pickup truck crashed head-on into a Chrysler driven by the Rev. Manard Giles, 77. The Quartz Hill minister was pronounced dead at the scene. A passenger in his car, Mattie Lee Ferguson, 60, of Lancaster, died later. A third passenger in the minister's vehicle was trapped in the car until rescuers could later free him.

Deputy District Attorney Karen Rizzo said prosecutors will ask that bail be set at \$3 million for Pate, who was convicted of DUI in 2007 in Ventura County.

If convicted, he faces up to life in prison.

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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. Annually, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.