

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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**Lancaster Man Sentenced for
Sexually Assaulting Girl Walking to School**

A 31-year-old man was sentenced today for kidnapping and sexually assaulting a 14-year-old girl as she walked to school in Lancaster, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Keri Knittel said Charles Delshawn James was sentenced to 82 years to life in state prison.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Lisa Chung of the Antelope Valley Branch also ordered that James register as a sex offender for the rest of his life.

On May 21, the defendant was found guilty of kidnapping for sodomy, attempted sexual penetration by a foreign object, forcible sodomy of a minor, lewd act on a child age 14 and dissuading a witness by force or threat.

Special allegations of kidnapping a minor and aggravated kidnapping also were found true by a jury.

James grabbed the teenage girl by her pony tail and dragged her into some bushes where he sexually assaulted her on Dec. 13, 2012, according to trial testimony. During the attack, James threatened to kill the girl and her family if she said anything, the prosecutor added.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Special Victim's Bureau.

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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.