

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Lancaster Man Sentenced for Killing Elderly Mother

A Lancaster man who killed his 73-year-old mother was sentenced today to 15 years to life in state prison, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Theodore Swanson said Shelton Eugene Bradley, 49, pleaded no contest on June 17 to one count of second-degree murder and agreed to waive any credit for time in jail since his arrest on Dec. 20, 2013.

Bradley was arrested a day after his brother called police to report that he found his mother, Rosie Manuel, unresponsive at her Lancaster home. The victim was found dead with her upper torso on an open oven door, with the oven tipped slightly over on top of her, Swanson said.

According to court testimony, the defendant told detectives that God had told him that his mother was a witch and commanded him to kill and burn the witches. Bradley then strangled the victim, and attempted to place her inside the kitchen oven, the prosecutor added.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department investigated the case.

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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 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.