

Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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Man Pleads No Contest to Stealing Marilyn Monroe Statue

A 25-year-old Glendale man admitted today to stealing a Marilyn Monroe statue from a public art sculpture in Hollywood last month, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Austin Mikel Clay entered an open plea to the court of no contest to one felony count each of grand theft of property valued at more than \$950 and vandalism causing over \$400 in damage over the objections of the prosecution. An open plea means a sentence was not negotiated with the District Attorney's Office.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Dorothy B. Reyes immediately sentenced the defendant to one year in county jail. Clay also is required to pay \$14,260 in restitution and will be placed on three years of formal probation.

Deputy District Attorney Ani Artsvelyan prosecuted case BA478883.

On the night of June 16, Clay is accused of climbing the sculpture at Hollywood Boulevard and La Brea Avenue and sawing off the statue that topped the artwork. The property is owned by the City of Los Angeles, according to the complaint.

The defendant was arrested on June 21 at his home.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Hollywood Division.

In a separate matter today, Clay admitted violating his probation in case BA470178, in which he was convicted of vandalizing President Donald Trump's star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame last year. The court ordered him to remain on probation for the remainder of the three-year term.

[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.