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NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged with Fatally Shooting Two Dogs in East Los Angeles

A 40-year-old man pleaded not guilty today to fatally shooting two dogs at his home, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

On July 11, Emilio Alvarez (dob 1/27/78) of East Los Angeles was charged with three felony counts in case BA469492: two counts of cruelty to an animal and one count of discharge of firearm with gross negligence.

The felony complaint includes a special allegation that the defendant personally used a deadly and dangerous weapon, a handgun, during the commission of the crime.

Prosecutors said on the evening of July 9, law enforcement reportedly received a 911 call regarding a man with a gun who killed a dog at a home in the 400 block of Betty Avenue in East Los Angeles.

When authorities arrived at the scene, they ordered Alvarez to exit his residence and the defendant was taken into custody, according to prosecutors.

Sheriff's deputies entered Alvarez's home and allegedly discovered the bodies of two dogs with gunshot wounds, one in a cardboard box and the other in a trash bag, prosecutors added. Moreover, law enforcement found a handgun inside the residence.

Alvarez is scheduled to return to court on July 24 for a preliminary hearing in Department 37 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

If convicted as charged, he faces a maximum possible sentence of six years and four months in state prison.

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

[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.