

Jackie Lacey

District Attorney
<http://da.lacounty.gov>



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Sarah Ardalani
Public Information Officer
213-257-2000
SArdalani@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LADAOoffice

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Man Sentenced to Prison for Assaulting, Killing Ex-Girlfriend in Watts

A 51-year-old man was sentenced yesterday to 71 years and eight months to life in state prison after he was convicted of assaulting his ex-girlfriend on Christmas Day 2013 and killing her less than six months later, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

On June 12, a jury found Mark Anthony Little guilty of eight counts: two counts of corporal injury to a cohabitant; two counts of assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily injury; one count of first-degree murder; one count of dissuading a witness from reporting a crime; one count of simple battery of a cohabitant; and one count of criminal threats in case TA133341.

Additionally, jurors found true a special allegation that the defendant personally used a deadly and dangerous weapon, a knife, during the commission of the killing.

Deputy District Attorney Paul Thompson, who prosecuted the case, said Little and Deborah Ann Treptor, 35, had been in a relationship for two years and lived with each other.

During that time, Little severely beat Treptor at different times between August 2013 and April 2014. Also, the defendant threatened to kill her if she revealed the abuse, the prosecutor said.

On April 29, 2014, Treptor broke up with Little. The defendant tried to get back with her and told family that he would not allow Treptor to leave him, the prosecutor said.

Two weeks after the breakup, Little arrived at Treptor's home in Watts in the early morning. While she slept, the defendant entered Treptor's room and stabbed her twice in the neck, the prosecutor said. Following the attack, Little fled the house.

Surveillance video shown during the trial showed Little running away after the assault, the prosecutor added. After the attack, Treptor's roommate called 911 for help and the victim was taken to the hospital, where she was pronounced dead.

The same day of the assault, authorities located Little, and he was arrested in connection with the killing.

Court testimony revealed that homicide investigators found discarded gloves containing the victim's blood and Little's DNA, the prosecutor said.

This domestic violence incident was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department Criminal Gang Homicide Division.

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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.