

# Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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## Baldwin Park Father Sentenced For Murdering Toddler Son

A 34-year-old man has been sentenced to 25 years to life in prison after being convicted of murdering his 20-month-old son, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jurors deliberated yesterday for about an hour before finding David Paz Vasquez guilty of one count each of second-degree murder and assault on a child causing death in case KA102202. He was immediately sentenced to 25 years to life in state prison by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Bruce Marrs.

Deputy District Attorney Deborah Scott, who prosecuted the case, said Vasquez was watching his son, Joshua V., on June 12, 2013 at the family's Baldwin Park home. After the toddler's mother left for work, she received a call from a hospital saying the child had died.

Vasquez told investigators that he placed the child on a bed and told him not to move, the prosecutor added. The toddler fell onto the floor and Vasquez became upset so he struck his son on the head and abdomen and then took him to the hospital. He was arrested that evening.

Injuries to the toddler included a smashed skull, broken ribs and internal bleeding in the abdomen.

During the trial, evidence was presented that when the child was 5 months old, he suffered a broken leg after Vasquez yanked his son from the mother. After that incident, the toddler was placed in foster care for about a month and then went to his grandmother's house for six months. He was then returned to his parents.

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

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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.