

*Jackie Lacey*  
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NEWS RELEASE

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## **Compton Man Pleads to Domestic Violence Murder of Wife**

A 66-year-old man pleaded guilty today to killing his wife of more than 30 years by slitting her throat, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Van Ha said Henry Cunningham of Compton entered the plea to one count of second-degree murder.

Sentencing in case TA147755 is scheduled Sept. 4 at 1:30 p.m. in Department D of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Compton Branch. Cunningham faces 15 years to life in state prison as a result of his plea.

On Dec. 17, 2018, Melanie Cunningham, 58, and her 1-year-old granddaughter were asleep inside their bedroom when the defendant grabbed a kitchen knife and slit her throat, killing her, the prosecutor said.

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

### **[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.