

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Oakland Man Convicted of Human Sex Trafficking

A 37-year-old Oakland man accused of trafficking a minor for prostitution and pimping another was convicted today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Michael Matoba said the jury deliberated for less than three hours before finding Rufus McNeely guilty of human trafficking of a minor for a sex act, pandering by procuring a minor over age 16 and pimping.

McNeely is scheduled to be sentenced Sept. 17 at the Los Angeles County Superior Court in West Covina in Department 9. He faces a maximum sentence of 30 years to life in state prison.

The prosecutor said in September 2013, the defendant met a 16-year-old girl and lured her from her home in Oakland. As they drove through California, McNeely made the teenage girl prostitute in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Ventura County.

After some time, the girl called police and revealed what was occurring, the prosecutor said. Through a sting operation involving several law enforcement agencies, authorities arrested McNeely on Oct. 2, 2013.

At the time of his arrest, the defendant was being investigated for pimping a woman in El Monte in 2012. Based on McNeely's involvement with the teen and new evidence, officials had enough to also charge him in connection with the previous crime.

The case was investigated by the Claremont Police Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Department of Homeland Security – ICE, and the El Monte Police 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 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.