

Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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Rosemead Man Sentenced to Prison for Mother's Murder

A Rosemead man convicted of killing his mother and burying her body in the backyard was sentenced today to 26 years to life in state prison, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

John Taylor Huynh, 30, was found guilty by a jury on March 20 of first-degree murder. Jurors also found true an allegation that the defendant personally used a deadly and dangerous weapon, a knife, in the commission of the crime.

Deputy District Attorney Cynthia Valenzuela, who prosecuted the case, said Huynh walked into the Alhambra Police Department on May 20, 2011 and told authorities that sometime in 2001 he killed his mother, Hong Tu Phuong.

Furthermore, Huynh said he buried her body in the backyard of their rented El Monte condominium.

Officials went to the home and discovered the victim's body in a shallow grave, the prosecutor said. It was later determined that Phuong was stabbed to death.

During the trial, the defendant testified that he moved out of the condo a week after the killing. When people asked about his mother's whereabouts, Huynh provided various excuses, including that she had died of cancer and, in some instances, she had moved to Vietnam.

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

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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.