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Man Charged with Fleeing Police in Stolen Car

A man was charged today with driving a stolen vehicle and leading police on a high-speed chase across five freeways before crashing, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Loren Lee Nava (dob 11/13/81) of Los Angeles pleaded not guilty to one felony count each of fleeing a pursuing peace officer's motor vehicle while driving recklessly and driving a vehicle without consent, as well as one misdemeanor count of hit-and-run driving resulting in property damage. The charges in case BA470653 include allegations of prior felony convictions.

A preliminary hearing is scheduled for Sept. 4 in Department 35 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center. Bail was set at \$175,000.

On Aug. 18, Los Angeles Police Department officers spotted the defendant allegedly driving a stolen Honda Civic, prosecutors said. He allegedly fled from the officers and entered the 210 Freeway, where California Highway Patrol officers took over the pursuit.

The chase continued onto the 118, 5, 170 and 101 freeways until Nava is accused of crashing into another vehicle on the 101 Freeway. He then allegedly ran from the car but was quickly arrested by CHP officers, prosecutors said.

The driver of the vehicle that was hit wasn't seriously injured.

Nava faces a possible maximum sentence of 15 years and 10 months in state prison if convicted as charged.

The case remains under investigation by the California Highway Patrol.

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.