

Jackie Lacey
District Attorney
<http://da.lacounty.gov>



NEWS RELEASE

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CORRECTION: Changes defendant's city of residence to Los Angeles, not Santa Monica.

Aug. 22, 2018

Man Convicted of Fatal Shooting of Teen

A 43-year old man has been found guilty of the murder of an 18-year-old last year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Keri Modder said Sherwin Mendoza Espinosa (dob 2/25/75) of Los Angeles was found guilty yesterday of one count of second-degree murder and a jury found true the allegation that a handgun was used in the murder.

Sentencing is scheduled on Oct. 12 in Department W82 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Airport Branch. Espinosa faces 40 years to life in state prison.

Victim Juan Castillo was found with a gunshot wound to the head in the 1300 block of 16th Street in Santa Monica on Feb. 26, 2017 the prosecutor said.

Case SA095642 was investigated by the Santa Monica Police Department.

[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.