

# Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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## Woman Charged in Metro Blue Line Killing

A 24-year-old woman accused of fatally beating a man at a Metro Blue Line station has been charged with murder, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Tracy Joy Gomez (dob 8/24/90) pleaded not guilty to one count of murder in case TA134727.

The felony complaint includes a special allegation that the defendant personally used a deadly and dangerous weapon, brass knuckles, in the commission of the crime. Additionally, the charging document alleges that Gomez was previously convicted of second-degree robbery in 2009.

Today, the defendant appeared before Judge Joel M. Wallenstein at the Los Angeles County Superior Court in Compton and her bail was set at \$1.06 million.

Prosecutors said on the afternoon of June 13, Gomez reportedly approached John Whitmore, 65, on the Metro Blue Line platform and beat him.

After Whitmore fell to the ground, Gomez allegedly fled the area, prosecutors said.

Authorities were called and the victim was taken to the hospital for treatment. Seven days later, Whitmore died from his injuries.

An investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department led deputies to Gomez and she was arrested on Aug. 24. The defendant was charged two days later in connection with the crime.

Gomez's next court appearance is scheduled for Sept. 15 for a preliminary hearing setting in Department D of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Compton Branch. If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a maximum sentence of life in state prison.

The case is being investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's 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.