

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



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Ricardo Santiago
Public Information Officer
213-257-2000
RSantiago@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LADAOoffice

Aug. 29, 2018

**Former Restaurant Employee Pleads to
Secretly Recording Other Employees in Restroom**

A former employee at a Signal Hill restaurant entered a no contest plea today for recording fellow employees in the bathroom, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Edgar Augusto García Franco, 49, of Long Beach entered an open plea to 38 misdemeanor counts of unauthorized invasion of privacy videotaping or photographing a victim. An open plea is a plea that was not negotiated with prosecutors.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge John D. Lord immediately sentenced García Franco to 360 days in jail and a suspended sentence of 17 years and 9 months in jail. The defendant will be on summary probation for the duration of the suspended sentence and will have to register as a sex offender during that same time period.

The defendant also was ordered to stay away from any Applebee's restaurant and the victims named in the complaint during the probationary period.

García Franco recorded eight women and one man between July and August in the employee bathroom of the restaurant located on the 800 block of East Spring Street.

Case 8LB12521 was investigated by the Signal Hill 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.