

Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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Ex-Arcadia Police Officer Sentenced to 180 Days in Jail For Embezzling Funds

A former Arcadia Police Department officer was sentenced today to 180 days in county jail after pleading no contest to embezzling tens of thousands of dollars from a police association to buy personal items, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge James Brandlin also placed Christian Blesch, 37, on probation for three years. Blesch paid \$41,965.99 in restitution to the Arcadia Police Officers' Association.

He was ordered to surrender Nov. 5.

In July, Blesch pleaded no contest to one count of grand theft by embezzlement in case BA416513.

Deputy District Attorney Geoffrey Rendon of the Justice System Integrity Division said Blesch began stealing funds from the police officers' association after being elected as its treasurer in 2011.

Blesch used the association's credit card to purchase parts and accessories for his own motorcycles as well as other personal items such as clothing, exercise equipment and cigars, the prosecutor said. He then paid the monthly credit card bills via the organization's checking account.

The case was investigated by the Arcadia Police Department and the District Attorney's Bureau of Investigation.

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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.