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NEWS RELEASE

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Man, Woman Charged in Gas Station Robbery, BB Gun Attack

A man and woman were charged today in a gas station robbery during which the clerk was shot with a BB gun, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Christian Vela (dob 9/18/96) and Jeanette Zavala (dob 5/25/97) were charged with one felony count of second-degree robbery, which includes an allegation that Vela used a deadly and dangerous weapon, a BB gun. The pair additionally was charged with one felony count of vandalism of over \$400 in a separate incident at a fast-food restaurant, according to the criminal complaint in case BA471833.

The defendants are expected to be arraigned today in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

Around 5 p.m. on Sept. 26, the defendants entered a gas station in the 600 block of North Western Avenue where Zavala allegedly stole a case of beer, according to prosecutors. The clerk followed her and took back the beer, but then Vela purportedly shot the victim multiple times with a BB gun.

Zavala allegedly grabbed the beer again and the pair left. The victim was taken to a local hospital where he was treated for his injuries.

Later that evening, the defendants are accused of getting into a confrontation with employees at a restaurant in the 5400 block of West Sunset Boulevard, then damaging kitchen equipment and shooting a window with a BB gun.

Police officers were called to the scene and detained the defendants.

Vela faces a possible maximum exposure of 11 years and four months in state prison if convicted as charged. Zavala faces up to five years and eight months in prison.

Prosecutors are requesting bail be set at \$90,000 for Vela and \$70,000 for Zavala.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, Olympic Division.

[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.