

Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged with Killing Pasadena Couple

A 29-year-old man accused of fatally stabbing his cousin and his cousin's wife was charged today with capital murder, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jacob Mallory Bersson (dob 4/9/85) has been charged with two counts of murder with a special circumstance allegation of multiple murders in case GA094945.

The defendant was scheduled to be arraigned today, but the court appearance was continued to tomorrow, Oct. 16, in Department C of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Pasadena Branch.

Additionally, the felony complaint contains a special allegation that the defendant personally used a deadly and dangerous weapon, a knife, in the commission of the crime.

Prosecutors said at that the time of the killing, Bersson was living with his cousin Lawrence Bressler and his wife Denise Bressler at their Pasadena apartment.

On the morning of Oct. 13, Bersson reportedly forced his way into the Bressler's bedroom and stabbed them to death. Soon after the incident, the defendant was arrested in connection with the stabbings.

The District Attorney's Office will decide at a later time whether to seek the death penalty against the defendant or life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Bersson is being held without bail.

The case is being investigated by the Pasadena Police 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.