

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Couple Charged with Animal Cruelty

A man and a woman are facing a felony charge after being accused of not caring for their elderly Labrador, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Deputy District Attorney Terrie Tengelsen said Jason David Azpeitia, 43, and Sharon Anne Azpeitia, 42, face one felony count of cruelty to an animal and two misdemeanor counts of failure to license.

Arraignment is scheduled today in Department 4 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, West Covina Branch. Case KA119039 was filed on Sept. 13.

On Jan. 9, the defendants' neighbor found their dog on the street in the rain, the prosecutor said. The dog allegedly showed signs of severe neglect, the prosecutor added.

The defendants are both Los Angeles Police Department officers.

If convicted as charged, they each face a maximum sentence of three years in county jail.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control.

[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.