

Jackie Lacey
District Attorney
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NEWS RELEASE

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Former Student Athlete Pleads in Domestic Violence Case

A former football player for the University of Southern California accused of attacking his girlfriend pleaded no contest today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Alberto Jimenez said Joseph Freeman Lewis IV (dob 11/22/99) pleaded no contest in case BA469776 to one felony count of injuring a spouse, cohabitant, girlfriend or child's parent and admitted an allegation of a prior domestic violence conviction.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Mildred Escobedo immediately sentenced Freeman to 365 days in county jail, five years of formal probation and ordered the defendant to attend 52 domestic violence classes. The court additionally issued a 10-year protective order.

Freeman punched, scratched and strangled the victim during a dispute in July, prosecutors said.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, 77th 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.