

*Jackie Lacey*  
District Attorney  
<http://da.lacounty.gov>



NEWS RELEASE

**Media Contact:**

Greg Risling, Assistant Chief  
Media Relations Division  
213-257-2000  
[GRisling@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:GRisling@da.lacounty.gov)  
Twitter: @LADAOoffice

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**Man Sentenced to LWOP for 2014 LAPD Fatal Crash**

A Harbor City man was sentenced today to life in prison without the possibility of parole, plus eight years, for the 2014 fatal crash that killed a Los Angeles police officer and injured his partner, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

In August, a jury found Mynor Enrique Varela (dob 7/10/93) guilty of one count each of second-degree murder and gross vehicular manslaughter.

In April 2017, a separate jury convicted the defendant of two counts of assault with a deadly weapon on a peace officer and one count of leaving the scene of an accident, but the panel was unable to reach a verdict on the murder and manslaughter counts. A mistrial was declared on those two counts and Varela was retried.

On May 3, 2014, Varela was driving an SUV that slammed into an LAPD cruiser near the intersection of Senator Avenue and Anaheim Street. The two officers had been attempting to take enforcement action with another vehicle when the crash occurred.

LAPD Officer Roberto Sanchez was killed and his partner was seriously injured.

Deputy District Attorney Geoff Lewin of the Crimes Against Peace Officers Section prosecuted the case.

Case NA099063 was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department.

**[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.