

Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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Man Accused of Stealing Ambulance, Leading Police on Chase Charged With Carjacking

A man was charged today with carjacking after he is accused of stealing an ambulance and then leading police on a pursuit that ended in a crash, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Mohamed Zahir (1/4/93) was charged in case BA430642 with two counts of carjacking and one count each of attempted carjacking and fleeing a pursuing peace officer's motor vehicle causing serious bodily injury. He's expected to be arraigned today in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

Prosecutors said paramedics were treating Zahir on Oct. 19 in downtown Los Angeles when he unbuckled himself from a gurney in the ambulance and ran away. A short time later, a woman was sitting in her Toyota Camry when Zahir approached the vehicle and tried to get inside, prosecutors added.

Zahir fled after the woman honked her horn and he ran back toward the ambulance. He got behind the wheel and drove away after the paramedics were able to jump out of the ambulance's back door.

Police chased the ambulance as Zahir drove erratically into opposing traffic lanes and at a high rate of speed, prosecutors said. Zahir eventually collided with a white van, injuring two people.

Prosecutors are recommending bail be set at \$430,000. If convicted as charged, Zahir faces up to 16 years and two months in prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles 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.