

Jackie Lacey

District Attorney

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NEWS RELEASE

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Former Inmate Found Guilty of Murdering Pen Pal

A 46-year-old man has been found guilty of murdering his elderly pen pal in Hollywood last year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jurors deliberated for about three hours before finding Scott Kratlian guilty of first-degree murder late yesterday. Kratlian faces up to 56 years to life in state prison when he is scheduled to be sentenced Nov. 18.

Deputy District Attorney Tony Cho of the Elder Abuse Section prosecuted the case.

Kratlian and victim Harry Major, 82, became pen pals while the defendant was serving a sentence for manslaughter in a New York prison. Upon his release from prison, Kratlian came to Los Angeles and lived with Major for a short time.

On Feb. 10, 2014, Kratlian killed Major at the victim's condo in the 1400 block of N. Vista Street. Evidence presented at trial showed that some of Major's blood was found on Kratlian's shoes.

Case BA421694 was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department's West Bureau Homicide.

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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](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.