

*Jackie Lacey*  
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NEWS RELEASE

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## **Man Sentenced to Life in Prison for Killing Cousin**

A 25-year-old Norwalk man convicted of fatally shooting his cousin was sentenced today to life in state prison without the possibility of parole, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

After nearly two days of deliberations, a jury convicted Ulises Carbajal Velasco on Sept. 29 of first-degree murder and possession of a firearm by a felon in case VA131846.

Additionally, jurors found true a special circumstance allegation of lying in wait, as well as a special allegation that the defendant personally used and discharged a firearm, causing death.

Prosecutors said Velasco and the victim, Sergio Lopez, were cousins. Prior to the killing, the defendant believed his estranged wife was having an affair with Lopez, according to court testimony.

In the early morning of Sept. 12, 2013, Velasco was at Lopez's home in Artesia. Evidence presented at trial revealed that the defendant lured the victim to a car under the pretense that he was looking for something. As Lopez bent down into the car, Velasco shot him from behind several times. He then left the scene.

As detectives conducted a homicide investigation, Velasco returned to the murder scene and was questioned by police. Through witness accounts, authorities were able to link Velasco to the killing and he was arrested in connection with the incident.

During the trial, the defendant's wife testified that she never had an affair with Lopez and there was no evidence to corroborate the defendant's belief.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's 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.