

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



NEWS RELEASE

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**Homeless Man Sentenced For Biting Off  
Coffee Shop Owner's Fingertip**

A 31-year-old transient was sentenced today to two years in state prison for biting off the fingertip of a coffee shop owner in Venice, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jonathan Shain Lemmons pleaded no contest to one count of mayhem before being sentenced by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Elden Fox.

Deputy District Attorney Stephanie Miyata, who prosecuted the case, said Lemmons, who had previously caused disturbances at the coffee shop, was asked to leave the business on March 21 by the owner. Lemmons then threatened and assaulted the owner, biting off a portion of his finger, the prosecutor said.

Case SA090038 was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Pacific Division.

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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 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.