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NEWS RELEASE

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**Man Pleads to Attacking Police Officer,
Ex-Boss at Landscaping Business in Torrance**

A man who tried to run over a police officer and a landscaper at a work site in Torrance has pleaded no contest to six felony charges, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Deputy District Attorney Ryan Gould said José Félix Campos Cortez of Compton entered the plea yesterday to two felony counts each of assault upon a peace officer, assault with a deadly weapon and vandalism over \$400 in case YA094031.

Cortez was immediately sentenced to nine years and eight months in state prison.

The defendant went to a commercial yard in Torrance on April 12 and began throwing rocks at the owner of a landscaping business where he occasionally worked. When a security guard attempted to intervene, the defendant chased him with a chainsaw while trying to start it, prosecutors said.

Cortez then rammed the owner's vehicle with his large work truck. When Torrance police officers arrived, Cortez aimed his truck at the officers and accelerated toward them, causing one of the officers to move out of the way, prosecutors added. Officers fired their weapons, however, the defendant was uninjured and arrested.

The case was investigated by the Torrance 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.