

# Jackie Lacey

District Attorney

<http://da.lacounty.gov>



NEWS RELEASE

## Media Contact:

Greg Risling  
Public Information Officer  
213-257-2000  
[GRisling@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:GRisling@da.lacounty.gov)  
Twitter: @LADAOoffice

Oct. 30, 2015

## Burbank Man Pleads No Contest to Punching Elderly Shopper Over Nutella Samples

A Burbank man pleaded no contest today to hitting a 78-year-old shopper at a warehouse store after the victim protested about how many Nutella samples the defendant had taken, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Derrick Gharabighi, 24, entered his plea to one count of elder abuse and was scheduled to return for sentencing on Sept. 20, 2016. He faces up to two years in prison.

Deputy District Attorney Michelle Dodd of the Elder Abuse Section prosecuted the case.

Last month, Gharabighi was at a warehouse store in Burbank when he walked up to get a Nutella waffle sample. When the elderly victim reached out, Gharabighi took all of them.

The victim then said he wanted one of the samples and told Gharabighi not to take so many. Gharabighi punched the man in the face. The victim was taken to a nearby hospital where he was treated for his injuries.

Case GA097173 was investigated by the Burbank 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 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.