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NEWS RELEASE

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Colorado Man Sentenced for Threatening to Kill Law Enforcement

A 36-year-old man was sentenced today to eight years and four months in state prison for threatening to kill Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

On Sept. 20, a jury found Jason Michael Kozup (dob 3/19/82) of Colorado guilty of 14 counts of criminal threats, three counts of vandalism over \$400 and one count each of stalking and attempted extortion. The defendant, who has been in custody since May 2015, received almost seven years of credit to his total sentence.

Deputy District Attorney Ranna Jahanshahi said Kozup called the Lost Hills sheriff's station and made numerous threats to kill a captain there in 2015. According to testimony during the 19-day trial, the defendant made threats by phone, including: "There's a total of seven officers that are lined up this weekend for full execution."

Kozup rented a vehicle and drove from his home in Colorado to California and vandalized three vehicles at a residence he believed to be the captain's home, the prosecutor said. In fact, one of the cars was owned by an FBI special agent and two were owned by the FBI.

The defendant also threatened to harm the captain's family unless payment was sent to him, the prosecutor added.

Kozup was apprehended by the FBI Fugitive Task Force less than two hours after his last recorded threat to Lost Hills Station.

According to evidence presented at trial, Kozup and the victim, who is now retired, did not know each other. Several out-of-state witnesses from various law enforcement agencies were flown in to testify.

Case LA080937 was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's 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.