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Five Men Charged with Murder in Honey Oil Lab Explosion

Five men were charged today with the murder of a man at a honey oil lab in Chatsworth earlier this year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Aram Abgaryan (dob 10/08/89), Vadim Klebanov (dob 12/15/59), Arsen Terejyan (dob 4/25/76), Rafael Mailyan (dob 6/12/87) and Stepan Mailyan (dob 5/26/54) were each charged with murder and manufacturing a controlled substance, concentrated cannabis.

The criminal complaint also alleges that the victim, Dados Aroutiounov, suffered great bodily injury and death.

Deputy District Attorney Lauren Guber of the Major Narcotics Division is prosecuting the case.

For at least two months, the defendants and victim were operating a sophisticated concentrated cannabis lab, extracting THC from cannabis plants. On Sept. 21, while Klebanov, Terejyan, both Mailyans and the victim were working in the lab, an explosion occurred, killing the victim and causing extensive damage to the lab, prosecutors said.

The next day, investigators returned to the lab after receiving information that an individual may have been killed in the fire. With assistance from arson investigators with the Los Angeles Fire Department, the victim's remains, burned beyond recognition, were located under a pile of debris.

The men were arrested on Oct. 29.

That same day, police also found \$3.2 million in cash and gold bars during the service of a search warrant at a storage unit, prosecutors said.

If convicted as charged, each defendant faces 23 years to life in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles 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.