



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE MEDIA RELATIONS DIVISION

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Woman Charged in Hit-and-Run Fatality of Bicyclist in Gardena

A 23-year-old woman charged in connection with a hit-and-run fatality in Gardena is scheduled to be arraigned today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Philip Norris of the Torrance Branch Office said Vanessa Marie Yanez (dob 9/3/90) of Gardena is scheduled to surrender to authorities for arraignment this morning in Department 4 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Torrance Branch.

Yanez is charged with one felony count each of leaving the scene of an accident and perjury by declaration and one misdemeanor count of vehicular manslaughter. Yanez was charged on Oct. 30 in case YA088615.

The defendant allegedly collided with a bicyclist on June 26, 2013, while driving eastbound on El Segundo Boulevard in Gardena. Yanez is accused of leaving the scene of the collision and, the following morning, reporting her vehicle stolen.

Victim Jesse Dotson Jr., 60, died from injuries sustained in the collision. The case remains under investigation by the Gardena Police Department.

Prosecutors have recommended that bail be set for the defendant at \$100,000. If convicted as charged, Yanez faces a maximum sentence of six years.

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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. Annually, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.