



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE MEDIA RELATIONS DIVISION

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Reputed Gang Member Charged in Clerk's Murder

A 31-year-old reputed gang member was charged today with capital murder in the September fatal shooting of a 99-cent store clerk, the District Attorney's Office announced today.

Eric William Atkinson (dob 4-10-82) is scheduled to be arraigned Tuesday at the Foltz Criminal Justice Center, Department 30, in case BA418132. Prosecutors will ask that he be held without bail, said Deputy District Attorney Larry Droeger, assistant head deputy of the Hardcore Gang Division.

Prosecutors filed one count of murder with the special circumstance of robbery and personal use of a firearm allegation against Atkinson for the Sept. 17 murder of Martha Sanchez. Prosecutors will decide later whether to seek the death penalty.

The married mother of five children was working shortly before 9 p.m. when Atkinson allegedly entered the Happy Bargain 99 cent store in the 7400 block of South Broadway and pulled a gun on her. A store surveillance video captured the fatal shooting.

The Los Angeles Police Department's Criminal Gang and Homicide Division investigated the case.

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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.