

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Driver Pleads to Assaulting Police During Rolling Gun Battle

A 20-year-old suspected gang member pleaded no contest today for his role in a police pursuit that turned into a rolling gun battle two years ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Avel Jowan Turks pleaded no contest to two counts of assault on a peace officer with an assault weapon and admitted gang and firearm allegations. He was immediately sentenced to 32 years in state prison by Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Scott Gordon in case BA428444.

Deputy District Attorney Robert Serna with the Crimes Against Peace Officers Section prosecuted the case.

Turks was the driver of a Chevrolet Tahoe that led police on a high-speed chase which turned into a moving gun battle. The Aug. 18, 2014, pursuit began after 2 a.m. when police tried to pull over the SUV's driver near Florence Avenue and Grand Street.

The Los Angeles Police Department investigated the case.

[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.