

Jackie Lacey
District Attorney
<http://da.lacounty.gov>



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Greg Risling
Public Information Officer
213-974-3525
GRisling@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LADAOoffice

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Woman Sentenced to 20 Years in Prison For Holding CFO Hostage at El Segundo Business

A 23-year-old woman was sentenced today to 20 years in prison for holding hostage the chief financial officer of an El Segundo business where she worked, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Leonora Banuelos pleaded no contest to one count each of attempted murder and assault with a firearm and was immediately sentenced by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge James Dabney.

Prosecutors said Banuelos was armed with a handgun in April 2013 when she entered the building where she worked looking for another employee. Banuelos and the co-worker had been involved in a failed relationship and she had become distraught, prosecutors added.

When she couldn't find her co-worker, she went into the CFO's office and held him at gunpoint. Police responded to the location and after a three-hour standoff, Banuelos surrendered.

Case SA083844 was investigated by El Segundo Police Department.

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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. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.