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NEWS RELEASE

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Man Pleads to Murder in 2005 Home Invasion Attack

A man pleaded no contest today to second-degree murder for a 2005 home invasion attack in South Los Angeles from which the victim died five years later at age 80, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Harry Leon Neely, Jr., 45, entered the plea before Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Robert Perry and is expected to be sentenced to 15 years to life in state prison under the terms of a negotiated plea agreement.

Sentencing is scheduled on Nov. 12 in Department 104 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

Deputy District Attorneys Heather Brel and David Chiang prosecuted case BA444743.

On Aug. 13, 2005, Harvey Sumpter was found bound and gagged in his house after the defendant entered the residence through a window in order to burglarize it, according to court testimony. Sumpter was badly injured and remained bedridden until he died on Feb. 19, 2010, as a result of injuries sustained during the attack.

Neely was identified as the attacker several years later by DNA evidence and was arrested in March 2016 in Memphis, Tenn.

The case was investigated 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.