

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged with Threatening High School in West Covina

A 21-year-old man was charged today with threatening to shoot up South Hills High School in West Covina last week, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Eric Neff said Dereck Peña (dob 2/1/97) of West Covina faces two felony counts of criminal threats in case KA119502.

Arraignment is scheduled today in Dept. F of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Pomona Branch.

On Nov. 7, Peña, who was a former student there, is charged with communicating threats of violence against the school to an ex-girlfriend, the prosecutor said. The victim notified the authorities and the school was evacuated.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a possible maximum sentence of three years and eight months in state prison. Bail is scheduled at \$50,000.

The case remains under investigation by the West Covina 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.