

# Jackie Lacey

District Attorney

<http://da.lacounty.gov>



NEWS RELEASE

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## Former Inmate Sentenced for Murdering Pen Pal

A New York man was sentenced today to 56 years to life in state prison for killing his elderly pen pal in Hollywood last year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Scott Kratljan, 46, was sentenced by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Robert Perry. Last month, jurors found Kratljan guilty of one count of first-degree murder.

Deputy District Attorney Tony Cho of the Elder Abuse Section prosecuted the case.

Kratljan and victim Harry Major, 82, became pen pals while the defendant was serving a sentence for manslaughter in a New York prison. Once he was released from prison, Kratljan came to Los Angeles and stayed with Major for a short time.

On Feb. 10, 2014, Kratljan killed Major at the victim's condo in the 1400 block of North Vista Street. Evidence presented at trial showed that some of Major's blood was found on Kratljan's shoes.

Case BA421694 was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department's West Bureau Homicide.

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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](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.