

Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged With Meeting Teen for Sex Through Social Media App

A Canyon Country man was charged today with having sex with a 15-year-old girl he met through a social media app, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Emily Cole said Michael Anthony Byrne (dob 7/17/91) faces two counts of oral copulation of a person under 16 and one count each of meeting a minor for lewd purposes, sexual penetration by foreign object and unlawful sexual intercourse.

Byrne pleaded not guilty and he is scheduled to return on Dec. 5 for a preliminary hearing setting date in Department S of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, San Fernando Branch.

Byrne met the victim through an app that allows anonymous social media interactions, the prosecutor said. The defendant initially pretended to be a girl who then introduced a "friend" which also was the defendant, the prosecutor added.

Case PA082513 alleges the crimes happened on or between Aug. 1 and Aug. 16.

Byrne faces a possible maximum sentence of seven years in state prison if convicted as charged. Bail was set at \$175,000.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sherriff's Department, Santa Clarita Station.

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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.