

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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**Transient Charged in Attack of Tourist
at Hollywood & Highland Center**

A man was charged today with trying to kill a Russian tourist this week at the Hollywood & Highland Center, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Donald Offerman (dob 10/1/61) was charged in case BA441623 with one count of attempted murder with the special allegation he personally used a deadly and dangerous weapon, a knife, and four counts of assault with a deadly weapon. He is expected to be arraigned today in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

On Nov. 18, the victim and his family, who were visiting the area from Russia, were walking up a flight of stairs at the popular shopping and entertainment complex when Offerman allegedly came up behind the group and slashed the victim with a knife.

Prosecutors said Offerman then rushed toward the victim's family and allegedly swung the knife at them multiple times. A struggle ensued between Offerman and the victim, who was cut again by the knife, as the man's family ran away, prosecutors added.

Two off-duty New York police detectives saw what happened and intervened, detaining Offerman at gunpoint.

Prosecutors are recommending bail be set at \$670,000. If convicted as charged, Offerman faces a possible maximum sentence of 24 years to life in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department's Hollywood Division.

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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 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.