

Jackie Lacey

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NEWS RELEASE

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Felon Charged in 2001 Murder of Los Angeles Bar Owner

A man serving time for a robbery conviction was charged today with the brutal fatal stabbing of a bar owner 14 years ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Hugo Lara (dob 4/23/73), aka Whisper, was charged with one count of murder in case BA441878 as well as a special allegation that he used a deadly and dangerous weapon, a knife. His arraignment will be scheduled at a later date.

On Dec. 17, 2001, shortly before midnight, three men entered La Cita Bar in the 2400 block of Whittier Boulevard and held a waitress at knife point, while another is accused of stabbing bar owner Alfredo Trevino. The three suspects retreated when they heard a siren but once they determined it was an ambulance, two of the men allegedly stabbed Trevino again, prosecutors said.

Trevino was stabbed 104 times and died at the scene.

DNA evidence found on rubber gloves inside the bar tied Lara to the crime, prosecutors said.

If convicted as charged, Lara faces a possible maximum sentence of 31 years to life in state prison. Lara is serving a 13-year prison sentence after being convicted of one count of second-degree robbery in 2008.

The case remains under investigation by Los Angeles Police Department's Hollenbeck 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.