

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Sylmar Man Convicted of Killing Wife of 25 Years

A jury found a Sylmar man guilty today of the shooting death of his 45-year-old wife at their home, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

After a six-day long trial, Albino Topete Morales, 60, was found guilty of one count each of murder with a handgun use allegation and shooting at an inhabited dwelling in case PA081563.

Deputy District Attorney Ani Bailey said Morales will face 57 years to life in state prison at a sentencing hearing scheduled for Jan. 20 in Dept. J of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, San Fernando Branch.

According to testimony at trial, Morales believed his wife of 25 years, Maria M., was cheating on him even though he had no proof. On Aug. 11, 2014, the defendant shot his wife to death at their home on the 14000 block of Herron Street, the prosecutor said.

During the shooting, a bullet went into the neighbor's house and punctured multiple rooms, going over the family's heads while they watched TV, the prosecutor added.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Mission 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](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.