

Jackie Lacey
District Attorney
<http://da.lacounty.gov>



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Sarah Ardalani
Public Information Officer
213-974-3525
SArdalani@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LADAOoffice

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Man Convicted of Sexual Assault in Long Beach

A jury today convicted a 53-year-old man of sexually assaulting a woman last year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Sherry Powell, who prosecuted the case, said the jury deliberated for less than an hour before finding Steven Michael Desisto guilty of two counts of sexual penetration by a foreign object where the victim was intoxicated, and one count each of possession of a controlled substance and unauthorized invasion of privacy in case NAO98017.

Desisto is scheduled to be sentenced Feb. 4 at the Los Angeles County Superior Court in Long Beach, Department S20. He faces a maximum sentence of 11 years in state prison and will be required to register as a sex offender for life.

The prosecutor said on Aug. 7, 2013, Desisto had drinks with the female victim. The woman became highly intoxicated and then the defendant took her to his Long Beach apartment.

While at Desisto's home, the woman passed out, but woke up to the defendant sexually assaulting her, the prosecutor added. The victim was able to flee the home, at which point she notified police about the assault.

During the investigation, authorities discovered an image of the victim during the sexual assault on Desisto's cellphone. Additionally, cocaine was found at the defendant's home.

Several months after the attack, Desisto was arrested and charged in connection with the crime.

The case was investigated by the Long Beach Police Department.

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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.