

Jackie Lacey

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



NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT:

Jean Guccione
Director of Communications
213-974-3525

Dec. 19, 2013

District Attorney Jackie Lacey Hosts 29th Annual Holiday Giving Drive

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey will present holiday gifts tomorrow to families of crime victims as part of the District Attorney's 29th Annual Holiday Giving Drive.

This year, the Holiday Giving Drive will benefit more than 200 families – including 700 children – who will receive baskets with toys and gift certificates.

"We in the District Attorney's Office have a very special place in our hearts for the victims of crime and their families," District Attorney Lacey said. "The holidays can be a difficult time, especially for the children. We hope to bring them holiday cheer."

Families are nominated to receive gifts by members of the District Attorney's staff. Personnel from the District Attorney's Bureau of Investigation will deliver the gifts to the families throughout Los Angeles County.

Families attending the news conference are:

- **Macias Family:** Francisco Macias, 24, of Gardena, was killed on April 30, 2011, after dropping off a friend at his home. He was shot multiple times through the driver's side of his vehicle and pronounced dead at the scene. His assailant was convicted of one count each of first-degree murder and attempted murder. He was sentenced to 90 years to life in state prison. The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Teresa Magno and investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.
- **Rhamdas Family:** On June 12, 2010, Marlon Usher, 30, a single father of three from Los Angeles, was fatally shot after returning home from an evening out with friends. At the time of the incident, an unknown Camaro containing the defendants accosted Mr. Usher and his friends. Mr. Usher got out of the vehicle he was in, allowing time for his friends to drive away. The defendants then opened fire on Mr. Usher, killing him. All three defendants were found guilty of first-degree murder and each was sentenced to 50 years to life in state prison. The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Paul Kim and investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department.

- **Romero Family:** Jonathan Romero, 18, of Los Angeles, was murdered on Dec. 23, 2010, as he was waiting for a bus in front of a church. While he was waiting at the bus stop, the defendants pulled up in a white van, exited the vehicle and fired multiple rounds at Mr. Romero. The two defendants were found guilty of first-degree murder and each was sentenced to 50 years to life in prison. The case was prosecuted by Sarika Kim and investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department.

The Holiday Giving Drive is a combined effort of the District Attorney's Victim-Witness Assistance Program and Bureau of Investigation. The gifts are made possible by donations from District Attorney personnel and others.

The individuals and groups who contributed include Deputy District Attorneys Kathy Cady and Richard Magelby; Judy Krantz; the Black Prosecutors Association of Los Angeles; and the Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association.

Local service organizations, corporations and individuals who made donations include the Rotary Club of Alhambra, led by President Denis Kerechuk, with the Alhambra/Ratkovich Company; Rotary Club of Los Angeles, led by President Ken Chong; Homer Alba of Hollywood Forever Cemetery; Adelia Lopez of Groman Mortuaries; Richard Gutierrez of Guerra Gutierrez Mortuary; Denise Snider with the Junior League of Los Angeles; Denise Brown and Dorothy Olender of KB Construction; Arnie Martinez and Daylyn Presely of Park Water Company; and the family of victim Hector Urias, which established the Hector Urias Memorial Golf Tournament.

###

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. Annually, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.