

*Jackie Lacey*  
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<http://da.lacounty.gov>



NEWS RELEASE

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**Gang Associate Sentenced to Life in Prison  
For Murder, Attempted Murder**

An Echo Park gang associate was sentenced today to life in prison without the possibility of parole for two murders and an attempted murder that occurred five years ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Andre Upshaw, 38, received life terms plus 25 years to life in prison for the slayings of Eric Zamarripa, 38, and Carlos Gonzalez, 37. He also was sentenced to 40 years to life for the attempted murder of William Vargas, 34.

Upshaw was found guilty in November 2013 of two counts of first-degree murder and one count each of attempted murder and shooting from a motor vehicle. Jurors also found true gun allegations and that the crimes were done for the benefit of the Mexican Mafia prison gang.

Deputy District Attorney Russell Moore of the Hardcore Gang Division said on March 1, 2009, Upshaw shot and wounded Vargas in Echo Park.

Minutes later, the defendant shot and killed Zamarripa in the 1600 block of Baxter Street. About 15 to 20 minutes after the second shooting, Gonzalez was killed in the 4300 block of Toland Way in Glassell Park, the prosecutor added.

The case was investigated by Los Angeles Police Department's Northeast 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 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.