

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged for Stealing Hearse with Remains Inside

A 53-year-old man accused of stealing a hearse containing a body awaiting burial was charged today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Ronnie Skipper (dob 9/14/61) has been charged with three counts: grand theft of an automobile, driving or taking a vehicle without consent and unlawful transportation of remains in case BA432478.

The defendant is expected to be arraigned this afternoon at the Foltz Criminal Justice Center in Department 30. Prosecutors will recommend that his bail be set at \$95,000.

The charging document also alleges that Skipper was previously convicted of attempted second-degree robbery in 2012.

Prosecutors said in the morning of Dec. 27, police received a call regarding a black Cadillac hearse that was stolen from a church in the 4900 block of Avalon Boulevard in Los Angeles. Additionally, law enforcement was alerted that the vehicle held a casket with body remains.

Authorities immediately began a search and discovered the hearse pulled over with several people holding down the driver. The motorist was later identified as defendant Ronnie Skipper.

Soon after, Skipper was arrested by police and subsequently charged in connection with the incident.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces seven years in state prison.

The case is being investigated by the Los Angeles 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.