

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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West Covina Man Convicted of Killing Wife

A jury today found a West Covina man guilty of killing his wife and leaving her body in the trunk of her car, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Miriam Avalos said the jury deliberated for about two hours before finding Tomas Rodriguez Infante, 62, guilty of the first-degree murder of his wife Charito Tolentino, 57.

Infante is scheduled to be sentenced July 8 at the Los Angeles County Superior Court in Pomona before Judge Mike Camacho. The defendant faces a maximum sentence of 25 years to life in state prison.

The prosecutor said at the time of the killing, Infante was having an affair on his wife. When Infante's girlfriend learned he was married, she broke up with him, Avalos said.

A day after the breakup, Tolentino went missing. Two days later, on Jan. 13, 2013, her car was discovered in the parking lot of the Hawaiian Gardens Casino. Law enforcement found her body in the trunk of the car. She had been stabbed and beaten to death.

During the trial, the defendant's son testified that his father told him he had killed his stepmother. Additionally, surveillance video at the casino, cell phone records and blood evidence at the home linked Infante to the crime.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau.

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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.