

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



NEWS RELEASE

**Media Contact:**

Sarah Ardalani  
Public Information Officer  
213-974-3525  
[SArdalani@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:SArdalani@da.lacounty.gov)  
Twitter: @LADAOoffice

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## **Man Sentenced to Jail for Abusing Dog**

A Los Angeles man convicted of brutally beating his dog was sentenced yesterday to one year in jail, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Eric James Fowler, 40, pleaded no contest to one felony count of cruelty to an animal on March 20.

During the sentencing, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Marcelita V. Haynes also sentenced Fowler to three years of formal probation and ordered him to pay a \$300 restitution fine. Additionally, the defendant must attend 48 animal cruelty classes and is prohibited from owning an animal for 10 years.

Prosecutors said on March 5 sheriff deputies were driving through an unincorporated area of Los Angeles when they observed Fowler kicking and stomping on a white object.

As the deputies got closer to Fowler, they saw the white object was a dog, prosecutors said. The deputies intervened and yelled at Fowler to stop.

Fowler ceased beating the dog and the canine laid motionless. After some time, the dog woke up, struggled to its feet and was led by the deputies to the patrol car.

Immediately after the incident, the defendant was arrested and the dog was taken to a shelter for medical treatment.

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