

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Gardena Woman Pleads to Fatal Shooting

A 41-year-old woman pleaded no contest today to fatally shooting a man whose body was discovered in a backyard in 2018, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Kristen Olson, aka Kristen King Olson, (dob 12/01/78) entered the plea to one count of voluntary manslaughter with a gun use allegation.

Deputy District Attorney Brianna Peden said sentencing in case TA147057 is scheduled on July 14 in Department D of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Compton Branch. Olson will be sentenced to 21 years in state prison as a result of the plea.

Olson rented a room in the Gardena home of Royce Leon Lanham, the prosecutor said. The defendant killed Lanham, 62, on or between Sept. 5 and 12, 2018, the prosecutor added.

The victim's body was discovered on Sept. 12, 2018, in the backyard of the home, wrapped in a tarp near a shovel and a freshly dug grave, the prosecutor said.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department.

[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 protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.