

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



NEWS RELEASE

**Media Contact:**

Ricardo Santiago  
Public Information Officer  
213-257-2000  
[RSantiago@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:RSantiago@da.lacounty.gov)  
Twitter: @LADAOffice

July 8, 2020

## **Security Guard Charged with Murder Following Fight Over Mask**

A security guard at a Gardena market was charged today with murder after a fight ensued after someone was not wearing a mask, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Umeir Corniche Hawkins (dob 4/2/82) of Gardena faces one count each of murder and possession of a handgun by a felon.

His wife, Sabrina Carter (dob 9/25/69), also is charged with one count of possession of a handgun by a felon.

The felony complaint in case YA102217 said both defendants were convicted in 2013 for assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily injury.

Hawkins and Carter pleaded not guilty to the charges today and are scheduled to return on July 10 in Department 8 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Torrance Branch.

Jerry Lewis, 50, reportedly entered the market without a mask and got into an argument with Hawkins on July 5, prosecutors said. Lewis then left the store, returned and allegedly fought with the defendant who then fatally shot the victim as he walked away, prosecutors added.

Bail for Hawkins is set at \$1 million and \$35,000 for Carter. Hawkins faces a possible maximum sentence of 50 years to life in state prison and Carter faces three years in prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Gardena 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.