

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



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Ricardo Santiago
Public Information Officer
213-257-2000
RSantiago@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LADAOffice

July 28, 2020

Corruption Charges Refiled Against Former Los Angeles County Assessor, Two Others

A total of 78 felony charges have been refiled against former Los Angeles County Assessor John Noguez, his chief appraiser and an Arizona tax consultant alleging they engaged in a public corruption scheme where Noguez was bribed in return for favorable property assessments and unprecedented access to high-level executives, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

The refiled case replaces case BA403666 which was filed in 2012 but dismissed Monday in accordance to an appellate court decision in May, due to a procedural delay.

Noguez, whose real name is Juan Renaldo Rodriguez (dob 11/29/64), Ramin Salari (dob 1/28/63) and Mark McNeil (dob 1/11/58) together face one count of conspiracy to commit grand theft and 14 counts each of misappropriation of public funds and grand theft in case BA488826.

Noguez alone faces an additional three counts of accepting a bribe, two counts each of embezzlement by a public or private officer and perjury by declaration as well as one count of public records violation.

Additionally, Salari, the tax consultant, faces seven counts of grand theft, nine counts of embezzlement by a public or private officer and 23 counts of bribing an executive officer.

Noguez and Salari also are jointly charged with two counts of grand theft.

The defendants pleaded not guilty to the charges yesterday and are scheduled to return on August 12 in Department 50 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

The alleged crimes highlighted on the attached felony complaint took place from 1999 to 2011 and resulted in the loss of more than \$10 million for the County of Los Angeles.

If convicted as charged, Noguez faces a possible maximum sentence of 36 years in state prison. Salari faces 59 years in prison and McNeil faces 22 years in state prison.

Bail is set at \$1.16 million for each defendant.

Deputy District Attorneys Bobby Zoumberakis and Casey Higgins of the Public Integrity Division are prosecuting the case.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Bureau of Investigation.

[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.