

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: @LADAOoffice

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Mother Charged with Murder of Son Found Dead in Closet

A 39-year-old woman was charged today with killing her 11-year-old son, whose body was found in a closet in their home, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Verónica Aguilar (dob 3/31/77) of Los Angeles faces one count each of murder and child abuse resulting in death in case BA449570.

Arraignment is scheduled this afternoon in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

The child's body was discovered on Aug. 22 after the victim's stepfather called police, prosecutors said. The boy, identified on the criminal complaint as Yonatan A., allegedly died due to neglect and showed signs of severe malnutrition, prosecutors added.

The case is assigned to Deputy District Attorney Scott McPheron of the Family Violence Division.

Bail for the defendant is recommended at \$2 million. If convicted as charged, Aguilar faces a possible maximum sentence of 15 years to life in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, Juvenile Division.

[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.