

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Long Beach Resident Charged With Murder of Missing Man

A 54-year-old Long Beach man has been charged with the death of Zachary Kennedy who went missing in 2017 and whose body was found months later buried in the defendant's yard, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Scott Leo (dob 7/13/66) faces one count each of murder, involuntary manslaughter, maintaining place for using methamphetamine and GHB and two counts of furnishing methamphetamine and GHB with allegations of causing great bodily injury.

Arraignment is scheduled tomorrow in Department S01 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Long Beach Branch. Case NA115166 was filed for warrant on August 26.

Kennedy, 31, was last seen alive at the defendant's home on Oct. 22, 2017. Evidence uncovered by police during the long investigation into the victim's disappearance allegedly showed the defendant was aware of Kennedy's dire condition due to an overdose but failed to call emergency services, prosecutors said.

On May 3, 2018, police found Kennedy's body buried in Leo's backyard with his feet severed, prosecutors added.

Bail is scheduled at \$2 million. If convicted as charged, Leo faces a possible maximum sentence of life in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Long Beach 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.