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Mother Pleads No Contest in Death of 2-Year-Old Daughter

A Rancho Palos Verdes woman pleaded no contest today to voluntary manslaughter for the death of her 2-year-old daughter she left alone in a car last year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Lacey Ana Mazzarella (dob 9/1/85) entered her plea to one count each of voluntary manslaughter, mayhem and child abuse resulting in death.

She is expected to be sentenced to 14 years and eight months in state prison on January 13 in Department D of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Compton Branch.

Deputy District Attorney David Zygielbaum prosecuted the case.

On Sept. 22, 2019, Mazzarella left her daughter in a car in West Carson and returned early the next morning to find the child dead, the prosecutor said. The engine and heater were both left running, the prosecutor added.

Case TA150231 was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's 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.