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Man Charged with Killing Infant, Grandmother in Hit-and-Run

A man pleaded not guilty today to fatally hitting a woman and her infant granddaughter with his vehicle and then fleeing the scene last week, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Dennis Anthony Perez (dob 6/25/70) was charged today with one felony count of hit-and-run driving resulting in death or serious injury to another person and two misdemeanor counts of vehicular manslaughter. The charges in case GA104566 include an allegation that he fled after committing vehicular manslaughter.

A preliminary hearing setting is scheduled for Dec. 4 in Department 5 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Alhambra Branch. Bail was set at \$250,000.

On the evening of Oct. 26, Perez was allegedly driving his vehicle northbound on Del Mar Avenue in San Gabriel when he hit a woman who was pushing her granddaughter in a stroller through a crosswalk at Live Oak Street, according Deputy District Attorney Vanessa Alfaro. Perez is accused of fleeing the scene.

Victims Mei Li, 59, and 1-year-old Paisley Chen were transported to a local hospital where they died of their injuries.

Police later identified the defendant's vehicle.

He faces a possible maximum sentence of 11 years in state prison if convicted as charged.

The case remains under investigation by the San Gabriel 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.