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NEWS RELEASE

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‘Dine-and-Dash Dater’ Pleads No Contest to Defrauding Innkeeper, Petty Theft

A 45-year-old man known as the “Dine-and-Dash Dater” admitted today to eating at local restaurants and receiving service at a hair salon then leaving without paying, the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office announced.

Paul Guadalupe Gonzales pleaded no contest to three misdemeanor counts of defrauding an innkeeper by nonpayment and one misdemeanor count of petty theft. Gonzales was immediately sentenced to 120 days in county jail and three years of summary probation and was ordered to pay restitution under the negotiated plea agreement.

While on probation he also is prohibited from using PlentyOfFish.com and Bumble.com dating websites and apps, is required to stay 100 yards away from five restaurants and is subject to search and seizure conditions including electronic devices and accounts.

The defendant also admitted to a probation violation for which he must perform 45 days of community labor.

He is expected to surrender to serve his sentence on Jan. 14, when a restitution hearing setting also is scheduled in Department H of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Pasadena Branch.

From May 2016 through April 2018, Gonzales was accused of dining with women he met through dating apps and then leaving without paying any of the bill at restaurants in the Pasadena area, prosecutors said.

In two instances, the restaurants allegedly picked up the check after Gonzales had left his dates alone, prosecutors said. In an unrelated incident, the defendant received services from a hair salon and left without paying.

Case GA103750 was investigated by the Pasadena 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.