

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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**Man Charged With Murder of Person Whose Remains
Were Found in Cypress Park**

A Pasadena man was charged today with killing a person whose burned remains were found last week in Cypress Park, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Valentino Gutierrez (dob 2/14/61) was charged in case GA102312 with one count each of murder and arson of property. He also is accused of using an accelerant.

Gutierrez is scheduled to be arraigned today in Department D of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Pasadena Branch.

Deputy District Attorney Rachel Bowers of the Arson and Explosives Section is prosecuting the case.

On Feb. 1, firefighters responded to a blaze about 1:30 a.m. in the 2000 block of Figueroa Street. Once the fire was put out, the firefighters found human remains, the prosecutor said.

Surveillance video allegedly led investigators to Gutierrez who was later arrested. The murder was believed to have occurred on or about Jan. 31 at a Pasadena restaurant that had been closed for several months, the prosecutor added.

Prosecutors are recommending bail be set at \$2.1 million. If convicted as charged, Gutierrez faces a possible maximum sentence of life in prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department's Robbery-Homicide 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.