

*Jackie Lacey*  
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NEWS RELEASE

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**Man to be Arraigned on Grand Theft Charges  
In Alleged Immigration Scam**

A 57-year-old man is scheduled to be arraigned today for allegedly operating a fraudulent immigration services business, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Augusto "Tito" Gonzalez De La Cruz (dob 8/19/60) faces 20 felony counts of grand theft. The charges include an allegation of fraud and embezzlement of property valued at more than \$100,000.

The defendant is expected to appear in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center in case BA465267, which was filed Tuesday.

Deputy District Attorneys Ryann Gerber Jorban and Leonard Torrealba of the Consumer Protection Division said Gonzalez De La Cruz scammed 15 victims out of \$183,300 by offering immigration services they never received between May 1, 2015, and Jan. 26, 2018.

He allegedly made false promises that included expediting the processing of visas, resident alien cards and citizenship petitions, prosecutors said.

Prosecutors requested that bail be set at \$400,000. Gonzalez De La Cruz faces up to 14 years and four months in state prison if convicted as charged.

The case remains under investigation by the Azusa Police Department. Investigators ask anyone who believes they might have been scammed by Gonzalez De La Cruz to call (626) 812-3227.

**[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.