

Jackie Lacey

District Attorney

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NEWS RELEASE

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Pinkberry Co-Founder Receives 7-Year Sentence For Brutal Beating of Transient

The co-founder of the Pinkberry yogurt chain was sentenced today to seven years in state prison for brutally beating a transient with a tire iron three years ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Henry Hall sentenced Young Lee, 49, to the maximum term, calling the assault savage and merciless.

Jurors in November found Lee guilty of assault with a deadly weapon. They also found true the special allegation that the assault caused great bodily injury.

Lee attacked the man on June 15, 2011 on the Vermont Avenue off-ramp near the Hollywood Freeway. The victim was panhandling when Lee accused the man of disrespecting him by flashing a sexually explicit tattoo. Deputy District Attorney Bobby Zoumberakis said Lee returned a short time later and chased and beat the man before several Good Samaritans intervened.

As a result of the attack, the man suffered a broken forearm and several cuts to his head.

A restitution hearing has been scheduled for May 14.

The Los Angeles Police Department investigated the case.

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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 seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.

