

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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Restaurateur Convicted of Sexual Battery of Female Employee

The co-owner of a Newhall barbecue restaurant was sentenced today to 90 days in jail for sexually assaulting a former employee, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Taylor Carr said Sam Albert Gardian (dob 8/12/67) also was sentenced to three years of summary probation and was ordered to register for the rest of his life as a sex offender and complete 26 anger management classes.

On Friday, a jury found Gardian guilty of two misdemeanor counts each of battery and sexual battery in case 6SC01747.

The victim, who was 20 at the time, was an employee at the restaurant when the conduct occurred between February and April 2016, the prosecutor said. According to evidence presented in the six-day-long trial, Gardian slapped the woman's head, pinched her tongue and slipped his hands down her pants on two occasions.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Santa Clarita Station.

[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.