

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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**Two Former Sheriff's Deputies
Charged with Conspiracy**

Two former Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputies have been charged with conspiracy, perjury and other charges for allegedly planting guns inside a medical marijuana dispensary to justify an arrest, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Julio Cesar Martinez (dob 12/12/74) and Anthony Manuel Paez (3/06/82) are scheduled to be arraigned June 17 at the Foltz Criminal Justice Center, Department 30. The two were booked and released on April 18 on \$50,000 bail each.

Deputy District Attorney Arisa Mattson with the Justice System Integrity Division said the two were charged in case BA423669 with one felony count each of conspiracy to obstruct justice and peace officer altering evidence.

In addition, Martinez was charged with two counts of perjury and one count of filing a false report.

Martinez and Paez wrote a report claiming they witnessed a narcotics transaction and observed one suspect with a firearm while patrolling along West 84th Place in Los Angeles on Aug. 24, 2011. Martinez said he followed one suspect inside a medical marijuana dispensary where he discovered a discarded firearm near a trash bin and another firearm on top of a desk next to ecstasy pills.

The deputies arrested two men, one man for possession of an unregistered firearm and a second man for possession of a controlled substance while armed with a firearm.

However, when LASD's Internal Criminal Investigation Bureau launched an investigation a year later, they discovered a video recording taken inside the dispensary. Investigators said the video was inconsistent with statements made by the deputies in their reports.

If convicted, the former deputies face more than seven years each in state prison.

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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. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.