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NEWS RELEASE

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Charges Filed in Long Beach Pursuit Which Ended with Death of Woman, Five Dogs

A 43-year-old man has been charged with leading Long Beach police in a pursuit that ended in a fatal crash in which a woman and five dogs died, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Javier Olivarez Jr. (dob 7/27/75) of Los Angeles faces nine felony counts: one count each of vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence, fleeing a pursuing peace officer's motor vehicle causing death and driving or taking a vehicle without consent as well as six counts of cruelty to an animal.

Deputy District Attorney David Cheng said the charges include allegations that Olivarez was convicted in 2002 of unlawfully planting or cultivating marijuana, receiving stolen property in 2004, second-degree robbery in 2007 and possession of belt buckle knife in 2017.

Arraignment was scheduled today but continued to tomorrow in Department S01 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Long Beach Branch. Case NA111911 was filed for warrant on Monday.

On May 7, police attempted to pull Olivarez over as he drove a van that had allegedly been stolen two days earlier. The defendant is charged with refusing to stop and leading officers on a pursuit, the prosecutor said.

Near the intersection of 3rd Street and Temple Avenue, Olivarez allegedly ran a stop sign and crashed into a car driven by Jessica Bingaman, 41. Bingaman died as a result of her injuries. Five out of six dogs that were in her car died as a result of their injuries, the prosecutor added.

If convicted as charged, Olivarez faces a possible maximum sentence of 38 years in state prison. Bail is requested at \$380,000.

The case remains under investigation by the Long Beach Police Department.

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.