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NEWS RELEASE

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**Man Sentenced to Prison for
Killing Girlfriend in Paramount Crash**

A 25-year-old man was sentenced today to 11 years in state prison for crashing his car into a median, killing his girlfriend, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

On April 6, Giovanni Guzman of Los Angeles pleaded no contest to a felony count of voluntary manslaughter in case TA140400. The defendant entered the plea during jury deliberations following a two-week trial.

Deputy District Attorney Craig Rouviere of the Victim Impact Program, who prosecuted the case, said at the time of the crash Guzman and the victim, Yadira Alvarez, 23, had recently reunited after a one-year breakup.

On the evening of June 9, 2016, Guzman and Alvarez had dinner in downtown Los Angeles to celebrate the defendant's birthday. Following dinner, the couple went to a bar in Paramount where Guzman drank alcohol, according to the prosecutor.

Guzman and Alvarez left the bar with the defendant driving. During the car ride, the couple got into a fight and the defendant pulled over the vehicle, the prosecutor said. Another motorist pulled over his car and stopped. The driver noticed Alvarez was in distress, the prosecutor added.

According to court testimony, Guzman told the motorist to mind his business and leave them alone. Sensing something was not right, the man came back around to Guzman's car and noticed the couple were fighting outside of their vehicle.

The good Samaritan stopped again, caught the attention of the defendant and told him he was going to call the police. As the man called 911, he heard the screeching sound of tires and seconds later saw Guzman's car crash into a median, according to court testimony.

Authorities arrived and found Alvarez ejected from the vehicle. She was pronounced dead at the scene. Guzman was taken to the hospital for treatment. The defendant's blood alcohol content was measured at nearly twice the legal limit, according to expert testimony.

On June 13, 2016, Guzman was charged in connection with the fatal crash.

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