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NEWS RELEASE

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Sept. 11, 2015

**Former South Pasadena High School
Track Coach Sentenced for Child Molesting**

A 33-year-old man was sentenced today for sexually abusing female high school students, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Last week during his jury trial, Pierre Jonas Hernandez of South Pasadena pleaded no contest to two misdemeanor counts: child molestation and sexual battery in case 4AH02817.

At today's court appearance, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Jon R. Takasugi sentenced Hernandez to 180 days in jail to be served by electronic monitoring, five years of summary probation and 30 days of community labor.

In addition to having to register as a sex offender for life, the defendant also must attend 52 weeks of sexual compulsion classes.

Finally, the judge ordered a 10-year stay away order, which prohibits Hernandez from contacting any of the victims.

Prosecutors said at the time of the crimes, Hernandez was the head track coach at South Pasadena High School.

According to testimony at trial, a 16-year-old female student came forward in April 2014 and said Hernandez gave her a massage behind a locked door. The massage included inappropriately touching the victim by reaching under her shorts and touching the victim's buttocks.

The testimony was corroborated by a second victim who came forward after the investigation had begun. She said Hernandez touched her in a similar manner.

The case was investigated by the South Pasadena Police Department.

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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 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.