

Jackie Lacey

District Attorney
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NEWS RELEASE

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Gardena Woman Charged in Fatal Shooting

A 39-year-old woman was charged today with fatally shooting a man whose body was discovered in a backyard earlier this week, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Kristen Olson, aka Kristen King Olson, (dob 12/01/78), is expected to be arraigned this afternoon in Department 12 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Compton Branch.

She is charged in case TA147057 with one count of murder with gun use allegations. Olson allegedly killed Royce Leon Lanham, 62, on or between Sept. 5 and 12, according to the charging document.

Deputy District Attorney Drew Josfan of the Compton Branch Office said the defendant rented a room in the victim's home. His body was discovered in the backyard of the home, the prosecutor added.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a maximum sentence of 50 years to life in state prison.

Bail for Olson is recommended at \$3 million. The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles 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.