

Jackie Lacey
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NEWS RELEASE

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**Former High School Teacher Charged
with Having Sex with Student**

A 30-year-old former high school teacher was charged today with more than a dozen counts for an alleged sexual relationship with a student, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Brandon James Lee Hitchcock (dob 1/9/84) of Lakewood was charged with 15 felony counts: 10 counts of unlawful sexual intercourse and five counts of oral copulation of a person under 18 in case VA137347.

Hitchcock is expected to be arraigned this afternoon at the Los Angeles County Superior Court in Downey in Department 6. Prosecutors are recommending that the defendant be held on \$450,000 bail.

Prosecutors said at the time of the crime Hitchcock was a teacher and soccer coach at Downey High School.

This year, school staff were informed about an alleged inappropriate relationship between Hitchcock and a student. Administration alerted law enforcement and they immediately began an investigation.

The criminal complaint alleges that the defendant had sexual interactions with a female student over a seven-month period.

Hitchcock was subsequently arrested and charged in connection with the crimes.

If convicted as charged, Hitchcock faces a maximum sentence of almost 13 years in state prison.

The case is being investigated by the Downey 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 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.