

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY SANTA BARBARA
DISTRICT ATTORNEY JOYCE E. DUDLEY
1112 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101
<http://www.countyofsb.org/da/>

CASE OF INTEREST

DATE: August 26, 2011
CASE: *The People v. Lacey Rae Strange*
PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Chris Linz

After an initial report of a traffic fatality handled by the Lompoc Police Department, other law enforcement agencies, including the California Highway Patrol, the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office, and the Santa Barbara District Attorney's Office, conducted a thorough investigation of the incident surrounding the death of Rebecca Vegas. As a result of that collaborative investigation by these agencies, District Attorney Joyce Dudley has decided to file one count of misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter pursuant to Penal Code section 192(c)(2) against Lacey Rae Strange (age 18) for her involvement in the death of Rebecca Vegas resulting from a traffic collision occurring on May 13, 2011, in the City of Lompoc.

The investigation reports indicate that Lacey Rae Strange was traveling eastbound on Ocean Avenue approaching J Street, a well-lit intersection with designated crosswalks. Ms. Vegas was walking southbound in the west-side crosswalk when she was struck by a vehicle driven by Ms. Strange. The investigation reports conclude that Ms. Strange failed to yield the right of way to Ms. Vegas, a violation of California Vehicle Code section 21950(a), and that Ms. Vegas died as a result of the impact of that collision. Ms. Strange has been notified of these charges through her attorney and she will appear in the Santa Barbara Superior Court on a date to be determined.