

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\***

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2011

**FIVE CHARGED WITH CRIMES OCCURRING IN  
THE OCCUPY LA ENCAMPMENT**

**LOS ANGELES** – The City Attorney’s Criminal Branch has charged five individuals with separate crimes including lewd conduct, battery, and assault recently committed within the Occupy LA encampment area located on the South City Hall lawn.

Farid Ahntab, 24, was charged with one count of possession of a deadly weapon, one count of brandishing a deadly weapon, assault with a deadly weapon and one count of resisting arrest following three separate incidents within the Occupy LA encampment. On October 29, 2011, Defendant Ahntab brandished a knife at LAPD and Department of Public Safety Officers. On November 4, 2011, the defendant attempted to light a food vendor on fire with a lighter and on November 11, 2011, the defendant actively resisted officers attempting to arrest him. Arraignment is scheduled for November 15, 2011 in Division 80 of the Criminal Courts Building.

Angele Chaidez, 21, was charged with one count of lewd conduct and one count of indecent exposure following an incident on November 11, 2011, on the south steps of City Hall. Several witnesses stated to law enforcement officers that Defendant Chaidez exposed himself and masturbated in the presence of several people, including children. A pre-trial hearing is scheduled for November 28 in Division 40 of the Criminal Courts Building.

Zachary Isaac, 21, was charged with one count of battery following a physical altercation within a tent on November 11. Defendant Isaac entered the victim’s tent and called her “Satan”. After asking the defendant to leave, the defendant punched the victim in the face with a closed fist, resulting in injury. A pre-trial hearing is scheduled for December 1 in Division 40 of the Criminal Courts Building.

Robert Holland Jr., 31, was charged with one count of assault with a deadly weapon, one count of brandishing a deadly weapon, one count of disturbing the peace and one count of resisting arrest. On October 31, 2011, Defendant Holland waived a knife at another individual in the camp and subsequently resisted law enforcement officers attempting to arrest him. Trial is currently pending.

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Michael Howard Thomson, 51, was charged with two counts of battery and one count of resisting arrest after getting into a physical altercation with a parent over a child. On October 11, 2011, Defendant Thompson approached the victim in his tent and pushed him while attempting to grab a two-year old child. A second victim stepped between the defendant and the child and defendant Thompson punched the victim in the face. When police arrived, the defendant refused to cooperate and violently resisted officers' efforts to detain him. Trial is currently pending in Department 52 of the Criminal Courts Building.

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