

## **Racial hunting Incident in Northern WI**

On November 5, 2015, Sao Lue Vang, a 64-year old veteran hunter encountered one of his worst nightmares. He and some friends were hunting on public land as they had many times before. After splitting up, Vang was attacked by Kevin Elberg, an incident that resulted in what an emergency room doctor described as “life threatening” liver damage. Elberg was arrested three days after the incident and was charged by the Pepin County District Attorney with battery with intent to injure and false imprisonment. Both charges are felonies carrying a maximum sentence of six years imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine. Elberg, who is 21 years younger and about 70 pounds heavier than Vang, told police he felt threatened because Vang's gun was pointed in his direction. The police officer that first responded to what was called a trespassing dispute noted Elberg's breath had a "distinct odor of intoxicants, although Elberg denied drinking prior to the incident. Elberg, however, was released without bond at the request of the Pepin County District Attorney. In December, about 75 Hmong students from across Wisconsin demonstrated in the city of Durand in Pepin County to raise awareness of what they call a racially motivated attack against an elderly Hmong hunter.