Hmong Heritage Preservation Committee of Minnesota 2905 Country Drive Little Canada, MN 55117

June 3, 2014

Council President Kathy Lantry 320-C City Hall 15 Kellogg Blvd., West St. Paul, MN 55102

Dear Council President Lantry:

The Hmong Heritage Preservation Committee of Minnesota (HHPCM) represents the voices and concerns of the Hmong Minnesotans on the ongoing issues of Hmong New Year celebrations and Hmong 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festivals. Its mission is to fight against financial corruption, leadership cooptation of Lao Family Foundation (LFF), its trustees' proprietorship of the Hmong New Year celebrations and Hmong 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festivals, and LFF's violence and social injustices.

HHPCM learned that on **June 4, 2014, at 5:30 PM**, the City of St. Paul was scheduled to hold a public hearing on the request of LFF. The request is on a sound level variance in order to present amplified music and announcements during the Hmong 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festivals on Friday, July 4, 2014, and Saturday, July 5, 2014.

HHPCM hereby writes this letter to strongly urge you to vote down denying the request of LFF for the following reasons:

- Mr. Giatou Yang, chair of the Hmong 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival of 2014, and his board members of LFF have maintained a proven record of violence and financial corruption. On the attached picture, which was taken after the Hmong 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival of 2013, Mr. Giatou Yang is the man with the sunglasses holding bundles of cashes on his hands
- Mr. Cher Pao Moua, the LFF vendors coordinator of the Hmong 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival of 2013, is the man whose right hand is holding a bundle of cash on the left of Mr. Giatou Yang
- 3) The man holding an automatic rifle behind Mr. Yang and Mr. Moua is Mr. Neng Lee, the sport coordinator of the Hmong 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival of 2013
- 4) As a result of these gangster activities and the ongoing dispute between the HHPCM and LFF on these issues, the Minnesota Attorney General Office wrote an official letter dated on April 30, 2014, to the Committee stating that "... this Office

[Attorney General Office] . . . did not direct the Foundation [Lao Family Foundation] to be formed, and did not declare the Foundation to be the official sponsor of the Special Events [Hmong New Year celebrations and Hmong 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festivals]

- 5) Representing the Hmong community to fight against financial corruption, social and gender injustices, and leadership cooptation of LFF, HHPCM has received numerous phone calls from not only the neighbors of the District 10 but also the Hmong in Minnesota and in other states, complaining LFF violence and financial corruption
- 6) In support of the HHPCM mission, we have secured more than1,000 petitions of the Hmong Minnesotans against the LFF right to host the Hmong 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festivals of 2014 and beyond
- 7) During the Hmong 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival of 2014 on Friday, July 4 and Saturday July 5, the Hmong community of Minnesota has scheduled to hold a series of massive protests against LFF host of the event on McMurray Field Como Park, St. Paul, Minnesota. That is, noises and nuisances will be really loud!

Therefore, HHPCM hereby requests your vote of denial of the LFF request. Your consideration is greatly appreciated. Thank you! If you have any question concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to reach me at (651) 206-8959.

Sincerely,

Mr. Ying Chu-Yang Heu Chair of HHPCM



What do you think? Koj xav li cas? *Self explanatory* 

- Guy in glass is GIATOU YANG (Aka Pao Yang) *Treasurer* of LFCM, currently LFCM *Vice Chair & LFF Trustee Board*
- Guy with the GUN is Neng Lee, *Sports*
- Guy next to Giatou Yang is CHER PAD MOUA, Food Booth, Currently Treasurer

These three GUYS are currently board members of the LFCM