



Application for Pardon

MINNESOTA BOARD OF PARDONS
& CLEMENCY REVIEW COMMISSION
520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155
phone: 651-539-2610 | website: <https://mn.gov/crc>

A pardon is an act of forgiveness that has the effect of setting aside a conviction and lifting many of its lingering consequences. The Board of Pardons may grant a pardon to an individual, provided all of the following requirements are satisfied:

1. The application concerns a criminal conviction for a felony or misdemeanor offense, not a petty misdemeanor, a juvenile delinquency adjudication, a dismissed criminal charge, or civil penalties.
2. The conviction was imposed in Minnesota state court, not in federal court or in another state.
3. The applicant must not have been denied a pardon or commutation within the past five years (unless a waiver of that waiting period has first been sought and granted).
4. At least five years have passed since the expiration or discharge date of the sentence (unless the applicant has been granted a waiver of the waiting period or meets the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 638.12, subd. 2(b)).

Instructions

1. Complete all sections of this application. Sign the last page and include the county and state in which the application is signed. Omissions or false statements may constitute grounds for denial of a pardon.
2. Submit the application and any attachments using one of the following methods:
 - a. mail the application to the above address; or
 - b. scan and email the application to clemency.review.commission@state.mn.us.

Applicant Identification Information

Last Name Vang	First Name Tou	Middle Name Lue
Date of Birth 08/11/1983	Place of Birth Thailand	
Current Address [REDACTED]		
City [REDACTED]	State [REDACTED]	Zip Code 55106
Telephone [REDACTED]	Email [REDACTED]	
Driver's License Number [REDACTED]	Issuing State [REDACTED]	

Race and Ethnicity (optional) Hmong	Gender (optional) Male	Disability Status (optional) [REDACTED]	
Are you in need of an interpreter for the meeting? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		If yes, what language: Hmong	
<u>DATA PRIVACY NOTICE</u>			
<i>The information you provide as part of this application, and any relevant materials found by staff in investigating your application, will be discussed at a public meeting of the Clemency Review Commission and/or the Board of Pardons and are open for public inspection. Failure to provide requested information may affect the processing of your application and result in denial of a pardon.</i>			
<u>Use of Other Names</u>			
List every name by which you have been known including conviction name, maiden name, former married name, nicknames, and all aliases.			
1. Tou Lue Vang	2.		
3.	4.		
<u>Clemency Application History</u>			
Have you previously applied for a pardon or commutation in Minnesota? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		If yes, please list the dates you applied and the outcome of the application.	
<u>Criminal History</u>			
Have you previously been in prison? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
List all states where you have been in prison.	1. N/A	Offender number for all states where you have been in prison.	1. N/A
	2.		2.
	3.		3.
List any pending criminal charges or investigations.		Arresting agency for pending criminal charges or investigations	
1. N/A		1. N/A	
2.		2.	

In the last 5 years, has an order for protection, restraining order, or domestic abuse no-contact order (DANCO) been issued against you?

Yes No

If yes, please list the court file number(s), the active dates of the order(s), and who requested the order.

1. N/A

2. _____

3. _____

Conviction Instructions

Please read this before filling out the following pages:

- ❖ The Clemency Review Commission and Board of Pardons will consider any and all past criminal convictions.
- ❖ You must include all criminal convictions in this application to the best of your knowledge, including out-of-state convictions and misdemeanor traffic convictions.
- ❖ A criminal conviction is a misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor, or felony offense for which you have been found guilty following a guilty plea or a trial. Petty misdemeanors are not considered criminal convictions and do not need to be disclosed.
- ❖ If you are uncertain about any conviction information, please explain as best you can.
- ❖ To ensure you have included all your convictions, please check the following resources:
 - Bureau of Criminal Apprehension records at: <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca>
 - Minnesota Department of Motor Vehicles at: <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/dvs>
 - Minnesota State Courts at: <http://www.mncourts.gov/>
- ❖ You must notify the Board if you are charged with a new offense after you submit your application.
- ❖ On the following pages, please provide information for every conviction for which you are seeking a pardon. Please add more sheets if necessary, using the same format.
- ❖ Under the "Other Conviction" section, please list all criminal convictions for which you are not seeking a pardon. This should include out-of-state convictions, federal convictions, and any misdemeanor traffic convictions.
- ❖ If you are unsure whether to include a conviction, please include the information.

I am seeking a pardon for the following conviction:

If you are seeking a pardon for more than one conviction, please start with the oldest conviction and attach additional sheets if necessary, using the same format.

Court File Number 62-K1-05-000057	Date of Conviction 10-31-2005	County of Conviction Ramsey	
Offense(s) CSC - 1st Degree -Penetration or Contact with a Person under 13-Actor > 36m older (609.342.1 (a))	Sentence 1 year sentence - with good term served 8 month at county correctional work house.	Plea Guilty	
Sentence Expiration/Discharge Date March 5, 2019	Sentencing Judge Judge Paulette Flynn	Prosecutor	Victim(s) [REDACTED]
Amount of Court-Ordered Restitution and Fines \$00.00	Amount Paid \$00.00	Amount Still Owed \$00.00	If you paid all restitution for this conviction, attach documentation that confirms this.
Briefly Describe the Facts of the Offense(s). On October 31, 2005, Vang, Tou Lue was duly convicted of the crime of Ct 1) Criminal Sexual Cond-1st Degree-Penetration or Contact with Person Under 13-Actor >36m older (609.342.1(a)) and was sentenced on February 16, 2006 to the Commissioner of Corrections for a term of 144 months. The execution of sentence was stayed and the said Vang, Tou Lue was placed on probation for a period of 30 years pursuant to the Order of the Honorable Paulette Kane Flynn, Judge of District Court. Upon successful completion of probation or supervised released, the Ramsey County District Court, on March 5, 2019, ordered that the said Vang, Tou Lue be "discharged from probation, restore to all civil rights, and to full citizenship with the right to vote and hold office the same as if said conviction had not taken place."			
List any violations of your conditions of release (parole, probation, supervised, conditional) related to this conviction, including the violation dates.			
Violations		Violation dates	
None			

I am seeking a pardon for the following conviction:

If you are seeking a pardon for more than one conviction, please start with the oldest conviction and attach additional sheets if necessary, using the same format.

Court File Number	Date of Conviction	County of Conviction	
Offense(s)	Sentence	Plea	
Sentence Expiration/Discharge Date	Sentencing Judge	Prosecutor	Victim(s)
Amount of Court-Ordered Restitution and Fines	Amount Paid	Amount Still Owed	If you paid all restitution for this conviction, attach documentation that confirms this.
Briefly Describe the Facts of the Offense(s).			
<p>MINNESOTA JUDICIAL BRANCH</p>			
List any violations of your conditions of release (parole, probation, supervised, conditional) related to this conviction, including the violation dates.			
Violations		Violation dates	

I am seeking a pardon for the following conviction:

If you are seeking a pardon for more than one conviction, please start with the oldest conviction and attach additional sheets if necessary, using the same format.

Court File Number	Date of Conviction	County of Conviction	
Offense(s)	Sentence	Plea	
Sentence Expiration/Discharge Date	Sentencing Judge	Prosecutor	Victim(s)
Amount of Court-Ordered Restitution and Fines	Amount Paid	Amount Still Owed	If you paid all restitution for this conviction, attach documentation that confirms this.
Briefly Describe the Facts of the Offense(s).			
<p>MINNESOTA JUDICIAL BRANCH</p>			
List any violations of your conditions of release (parole, probation, supervised, conditional) related to this conviction, including the violation dates.			
Violations		Violation dates	

I have been convicted of the following offenses for which I am not seeking a pardon from the Minnesota Board of Pardons.

List all criminal convictions for which you are not seeking a pardon, including all out-of-state and federal convictions and misdemeanor traffic convictions. You do not need to disclose petty misdemeanor convictions or dismissed criminal charges. Attach additional sheets if necessary, using the same format.

Offense N/A	Date of offense	Sentence
Date of conviction/Court file no.	County/State of conviction	Sentence expiration/discharge date
Offense	Date of offense	Sentence
Date of conviction/Court file no.	County/State of conviction	Sentence expiration/discharge date
Offense	Date of offense	Sentence
Date of conviction/Court file no.	County/State of conviction	Sentence expiration/discharge date
Offense	Date of offense	Sentence
Date of conviction/Court file no.	County/State of conviction	Sentence expiration/discharge date
Offense	Date of offense	Sentence
Date of conviction/Court file no.	County/State of conviction	Sentence expiration/discharge date
Offense	Date of offense	Sentence
Date of conviction/Court file no.	County/State of conviction	Sentence expiration/discharge date
Offense	Date of offense	Sentence
Date of conviction/Court file no.	County/State of conviction	Sentence expiration/discharge date
Offense	Date of offense	Sentence
Date of conviction/Court file no.	County/State of conviction	Sentence expiration/discharge date

The Reasons You Are Asking for a Pardon

Describe your past and current employment and education since your convictions (information must be provided here, do not attach a resume).

Since my conviction, I have committed myself to rebuilding my life through consistent employment and by striving to provide a stable, supportive environment for my family. I have made every effort to secure meaningful work, not only to meet our material needs but to serve as a role model in raising my children to become responsible, dependable, and contributing members of society.

From 2008 to 2010, I was employed as a cashier at the Walmart store, where I developed strong customer service and interpersonal skills. Seeking greater opportunity and professional growth, I transitioned into the manufacturing sector. From 2011 to 2018, I worked as a machine operator at Water Gremlin in White Bear Lake, contributing to the production of fishing tackle components, including lead sinkers. From 2019 to 2023, I was employed at Smyth Companies in Eagan, Minnesota. Through this role, I gained extensive experience in precision-based manufacturing, adherence to workplace safety protocols, and the importance of dependability and teamwork on the production floor. To continue providing financial support for my family and children, I have maintained employment as a member of the custodial team at Russ Davis Wholesale in Wadena, Minnesota—a position I have held since 2023, following the termination of my previous role at Smyth Companies as a result of my past conviction. I remain committed to fulfilling my responsibilities with dedication and integrity.

Although I was unable to pursue formal education due to the responsibilities of supporting my family and raising my children, as well as the limitations imposed by my conviction, I have successfully completed all court-mandated treatment programs and educational requirements. These include sex offender treatment and parenting courses, which I approached with sincerity and commitment. I am proud to report that I complied fully with the terms of my probation and did not incur any violations throughout its duration. On March 5, 2019, I was officially discharged from probation, having fulfilled all conditions set forth by the court. I am deeply grateful for this milestone, which marked a significant step forward in my journey of rehabilitation and personal growth.

Despite the ongoing challenges I face in securing employment, accessing education, and obtaining housing due to the enduring consequences of my conviction, I have remained steadfast in my efforts to rebuild my life, and I remain deeply committed to my family's well-being. I continue to actively participate in child care and household responsibilities, and provide consistent emotional and practical support to my children, who are at the heart of my life and motivation. With the unwavering support of my loving and forgiving wife, I was able to achieve the important milestone of purchasing a home for our family in St. Paul. This accomplishment stands not only as a symbol of resilience and redemption but also as a reflection of my determination to lead a responsible life and serve as a positive role model for my children, in spite of the mistakes of my past.

Describe steps you have taken to improve yourself since your conviction(s), including such things as community service or volunteer activities, participation in support groups, and service to family members.

Community service and cultural preservation have always been close to my heart. My interest in Hmong cultural traditions began in my teenage years. Although my studies were interrupted due to my incarceration, I remained determined to continue my learning. Despite my conviction, I continued my studies and, after two years, completed my education in Hmong cultural traditions in preparation for future community service.

Since 2016, I have had the honor of serving the Vang family of Minnesota in several leadership capacities. I was elected clan leader in 2016, serving a two-year term. From 2018 to 2021, I served as Chair of the Vang Council's Public Relations Committee, where I was responsible for promoting council events, delivering public remarks, and welcoming guests at community gatherings. From 2021 to the present, I have also served as Co-Chair of the Council's Cultural Department, a role in which I assist with the mediation and facilitation of traditional Hmong weddings, funerals, and other cultural and religious ceremonies.

In addition to my formal roles, I regularly volunteer at local Hmong senior centers, offering companionship, conversation, and care to our elders. These interactions not only provide meaningful engagement for the seniors, but also allow me to give back to the community that has supported me through my journey of rehabilitation and growth.

Describe why you believe you are a good candidate for a pardon.

I believe I am a strong candidate for a pardon because, while I fully acknowledge and take full responsibility for the mistakes I made in the past, I am no longer the person I once was. My past actions—though deeply regrettable—do not reflect the man I am today. Since my conviction, I have committed myself to living an honest, responsible, and community-focused life. I have worked tirelessly to rebuild the trust of my family, friends, and community.

I have successfully completed all court-mandated treatment programs and trainings, including sex offender treatment and parenting education. I consistently complied with all conditions of my probation, never once missing a meeting with my probation officer or violating any court orders, and was formally discharged from probation in good standing. Today, I am a devoted husband and a nurturing, supportive father to six children, whom I have raised—alongside my wife of twenty-three years—to be respectful, honest, responsible, and engaged members of our community.

As the eldest of five children, I assumed the weight of responsibility early in life. My father passed away when I was only seven years old while we were living in a refugee camp in Thailand. His death left a profound void in our lives, and my siblings and I were left to navigate life without a role model or a guide. Reflecting back, I know that had someone clearly taught me what the law required—that a relationship must occur between two consenting adults aged 18 or older—I would have made different choices.

Since my conviction, I have worked diligently to become a better man. I completed all required treatment, pursued steady employment, continued my studies in Hmong cultural traditions, purchased a home with my wife, and raised children who make me immensely proud. I have paid taxes, lived with integrity, and devoted myself to strengthening the community around me. Since 2016, I have volunteered with the Vang Council of Minnesota, initially serving as Chair of Public Relations, then as Co-Chair of the Cultural Department, and currently as a Cultural Advisor.

The shame and regret I carry—especially as my children have grown older and learned about my past—run deep. If it were possible to undo what happened, I would do so without hesitation. But I cannot change the past. What I can do is ask, with the utmost sincerity, for a second chance.

A pardon would allow me to move forward more fully—to continue supporting my family, serving my community, and giving back to the country that gave me the opportunity to grow, heal, and become the man I am today.

What would a pardon help you accomplish?

A pardon in my case would serve several important purposes. Although I have been formally discharged from probation, I continue to face enduring barriers to employment, housing, and access to basic civil and citizenship rights. A pardon would help lift or ease these restrictions, allowing me to more fully support my family by providing a secure and stable home for my children and helping them pursue their education so that they may have a brighter and more promising future.

Moreover, a pardon would allow me to remain in the United States with my wife and children, my mother and stepfather, and my eight siblings—all of whom reside here and make up the foundation of my emotional and familial support system. I recognize that I should have pursued a pardon much earlier, perhaps immediately upon my release from probation, but I was unaware that this avenue of relief was available to me. Until recently, seeking a pardon had not presented itself as an urgent matter. However, in light of the current political climate, the need has become both immediate and critical. Without the protection a pardon can provide, I face the very real risk of detention and deportation.

I was born not in Laos, but in the Ban Vinai refugee camp in northeastern Thailand. I hold no citizenship or legal residency in either country. All of my immediate and extended family live in the United States, and I have no surviving relatives in Laos. If I were removed to that country—a single-party communist regime where I have no ties, no memories, and no support system—my wife and children would face immense emotional and financial hardship, and I would be sent to a place entirely unfamiliar to me, with no family, no home, and no future.

Since arriving in the United States as a child, and especially following my conviction, I have worked tirelessly to build a meaningful life grounded in service, family, and personal redemption. I have contributed to my community, raised a loving family, and met every challenge with honesty and determination. A pardon would not only allow me to continue this work, but also to expand my contributions—particularly in preserving, revitalizing, and advancing Hmong American culture within Minnesota's growing and diverse community.

As an extroverted individual, I find deep fulfillment in connecting with others, especially through meaningful conversations and shared stories. One of my greatest passions lies in supporting our elders. Their wisdom, strength, and quiet dignity have been a source of constant inspiration in my life. If granted a pardon, I would devote the rest of my life to serving our senior community.


Nothing brings me more joy than taking our elders shopping, walking alongside them in the park, assisting with daily needs like picking up medications, or simply sitting and listening to their stories. In those moments—when I see their smiles and hear their laughter—I feel an overwhelming sense of purpose. I have quietly wept at times, moved by their gratitude and the knowledge that someone truly cares for them. These interactions are more than acts of service—they are acts of love and humanity. Serving our elders is not merely something I do; it is my calling.

If granted a second chance through a pardon, I would embrace the opportunity to continue giving back to my community and, in particular, to the elders whose lives and legacies have shaped us all. It would be the greatest honor of my life to spend my remaining years offering them dignity, care, and compassion.

Support/Recommendation Letters

Although not required, you may submit a few letters of support or recommendation. **Please do not submit more than six support letters, as additional letters will not be considered.** Please attach the letters to this application.

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that everything I have stated in this application is true and correct. I authorize any agency or individual in any state to provide the Minnesota Board of Pardons with information relating to my application, including records of arrests and convictions, and I understand that the information provided may include information previously subject to an order of expungement.


Applicant signature

7/21/2025
Date

Ramsey County
County

MN
State

MINNESOTA
JUDICIAL
BRANCH

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 53531

July 15, 2025

Minnesota Board of Pardons
& Clemency Review Commission
520 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 5515

Dear Honorable Members of the Board of Pardons,

It is with the utmost humility and respect that I write this letter to express my wholehearted support for the pardon application of Tou Lue Vang, who was convicted of 1st degree sexual misconduct—penetration or contact with a minor—on October 31, 2005, and was discharged from probation, restored to all civil rights and to full citizenship with the right to vote and hold office the same as if said conviction had not taken place on March 5, 2019. I have had the privilege of knowing Mr. Vang's his entire life, and I can personally attest to the extraordinary growth and transformation he has undergone over the years. As his uncle, I witnessed firsthand the profound challenges he faced growing up without a father, who was tragically murdered in the Ban Vinai refugee camp in northeastern Thailand when Mr. Vang was just six years old. In my various capacities—as his sponsor during his rehabilitation and probation, as a university professor, a pastor, and the proprietor of The Mekong, a restaurant and event venue in McFarland, Wisconsin—I have had the unique opportunity to observe Mr. Vang evolve into a dedicated father, a reliable co-worker, a respected clan leader, and an influential figure in both cultural and community leadership. His resilience and transformation are nothing short of remarkable.

I am fully aware of the mistake he made in the past, but I know that it does not reflect the person he is today. Over the years, I have witnessed Mr. Vang's commitment to living an honest, responsible, and community-oriented life. He has taken full accountability for his past actions and worked hard to rebuild trust with family, friends, and the broader community. Since his sentencing in February 2006 and subsequent placement on probation, Mr. Vang has demonstrated unwavering commitment to personal growth and rehabilitation. He successfully completed all court-mandated programs and trainings, including parenting courses, and was formally discharged from probation on March 5, 2019. Over the past years, Mr. Vang has become a devoted husband and a nurturing, supportive father to his six children—three sons and three daughters—whose ages range from eleven to twenty-two. Together with his wife of twenty-three years, he has raised their children to be respectful, responsible, and well-adjusted young individuals. Since 2006, Mr. Vang has consistently held various forms of employment to provide for his family, dedicating himself to guiding his children toward becoming productive citizens and helping them avoid the missteps of his past. Leading by example, he has also immersed himself in the study and practice of Hmong cultural traditions, including rituals associated with weddings and funerals. In 2016, Mr. Vang was elected by the Vang family in Minnesota to serve as their clan leader, a role he held for two years. Since then, he has continued his community service through various positions on the board of the Vang Council, a Minnesota-based nonprofit organization. As the Council's cultural consultant and chair of public relations, he has played a vital role in mediating domestic conflicts, coordinating New Year celebrations, and officiating cultural ceremonies such as weddings and funerals. Accordingly, when my nephew—the son of my eldest brother—got married in 2015, Mr. Vang served as one of his *mej koob*, or marriage brokers, a highly respected role in Hmong tradition comparable to that of a broker in a real estate transaction.

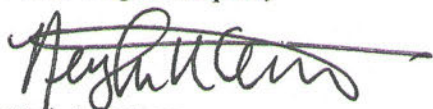
Mr. Tou Lue Vang is a deserving individual who, in my sincere belief, should have sought a pardon much sooner, perhaps several years ago. Had he been informed of this opportunity earlier, I am confident that his application would have met with your approval. Regrettably, he was unaware of this option until recently, and only now—under urgent and distressing circumstances—is he pursuing it. In today's shifting political and legal climate, particularly with respect to immigration enforcement, the need for a pardon has become both immediate and critical. Without such relief, Mr. Vang faces the imminent risk of detention and deportation. It would be a grave miscarriage of justice—and a deeply human tragedy—if he were removed from the only home he has ever known and sent to Laos, a country under a single-party communist regime, where he has no family, no support system, and no personal connection or memory. Though Mr. Vang's parents were born in Laos, they fled following the Vietnam War, seeking refuge and a better life for their children. Mr. Vang was born not in Laos, but in the Ban Vinai refugee camp in northeastern Thailand. All of his immediate and extended family reside in the United States. He has no surviving relatives in Laos. Deporting him would tear him away from the only family and community he has ever known, violating the long-standing principle of family unity that has been at the heart of our immigration policy since the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965.

In my respectful opinion, granting a pardon to Mr. Tou Lue Vang would serve not only as a recognition of his sincere efforts toward personal transformation, but also as a powerful affirmation that redemption and rehabilitation remain core values in our justice system. Despite having made significant strides in rebuilding his life, Mr. Vang continues to face persistent barriers due to his criminal record—particularly in areas such as employment, housing, and naturalization. A pardon would not only alleviate these burdens, but more importantly, it would allow him to remain with his wife and children, his mother and stepfather, and his eight siblings—all of whom reside in the United States and form the foundation of his support system. Since arriving in the United States as a child, he has built a life here—contributing to his community, raising a family, and working to overcome the challenges of his past with integrity and determination. A pardon for Mr. Vang would also enable him to continue his vital contributions to the preservation, revitalization, and evolution of Hmong American culture within the vibrant and growing Minnesota community.

I respectfully urge the Board to give Mr. Tou Lue Vang's application the fullest and most compassionate consideration, in light of his genuine and enduring personal transformation, as well as the meaningful and continued contributions he has made to those around him and to the broader Hmong Minnesotan community and beyond. A pardon in Mr. Vang's case is not only warranted but vital to supporting his continued journey of growth and reintegration into society. It would embody the principles of justice, compassion, and humanity that lie at the heart of this process. Moreover, it would stand as a compelling testament to the transformative power of rehabilitation and hope—an affirmation of the profound belief that individuals who demonstrate genuine change and meaningful service to their community deserve the opportunity to fully reclaim their rightful place within it.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

With deepest respect,



Nengher N. Vang



- SEAN VANG**
PRESIDENT
- JOHNNY VAM TSAV VANG**
VICE PRESIDENT
- DR. NHIA VANG**
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- SOUA VANG**
SECRETARY
- CHEE NOU VANG**
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
- UE VANG**
TREASURER
- THONGSY VANG**
ASSISTANT TREASURER
- NKAJ YEEB VAJ**
MEDIATION CHAIR
- KOU VANG**
ECONOMIC CHAIR
- TXHIAJ SAWM VANG**
CULTURE CHAIR
- DR. NUM ZAAJ VANG**
MENTAL HEALTH CHAIR
- DR. FUE VANG**
EDUCATION CHAIR
- CHUNIA VANG**
CIVIC CHAIR
- BOONMEE VANG**
PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR
- MAYTINEE XIONG**
WOMEN DEVELOPMENT CHAIR
- YAMOUA VANG**
YOUTH AND FAMILY CHAIR
- KA YEEB VAJ**
IT & MEDIA CHAIR
- SHAH VANG**
BUILDING EXPLORATION CHAIR
- CHA XENG VANG**
18 COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

June 19, 2025

Sean Vang
Board President
Vang Council of Minnesota, Inc.
255 University Ave W
Saint Paul, MN 55103
[REDACTED]

Dear Pardon Board and the Honorable Governor Tim Walz,

My name is Sean Vang and I am the Board President of Vang Council of Minnesota, a local nonprofit organization focused on family unity, cultural preservation, and growth in the community.

I am writing this letter in support of Tou Lue Vang and his application for a pardon. I have known Tou Lue for over ten years as a friend and in his capacity as a Board member with Vang Council of Minnesota since 2019. Tou Lue is a Hmong cultural expert and have used his talents and skills to preserved the Hmong culture and heritage. Currently, under my administration, 2024-2028, Tou Lue serves on the Board of Director and sits on the Culture Department. During his tenure at Vang Council, I can personally speak to the positive growth, character, and positive contributions he has made to our community.

While Tou Lue made a mistake in the past, it is clear to me—and to many others who know him—that he has worked diligently to learn from that experience and become a better person. He has taken full responsibility for his actions, and since then, demonstrated consistent commitment to living a lawful, productive, and community-focused life.

Over the years, I have witnessed the direct impact from Tou Lue's dedication and commitment to our community, such as working a steady job, supporting a family, volunteering, pursuing education, mentoring youth, or giving back to the community. These actions speak volumes about his integrity, maturity, and deep desire to contribute meaningfully to society.

A pardon would offer Tou Lue the opportunity to seek a path to become a U.S citizen and continue rebuilding his life without the burden of a record that no longer reflects who he is today. It would open doors for advancement in employment, housing, and civic participation—allowing him to fully reintegrate into society and continue making a positive impact.

I respectfully urge you to give Tou Lue a full and fair consideration. I believe he is truly deserving of a second chance and that granting a pardon would serve the principles of justice, rehabilitation, and mercy.

Thank you for your time and attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Sean Vang



Ue Vang

[REDACTED]
55113

July 18, 2025

Minnesota Board of Pardons & Clemency Review Commission
520 Lafayette Road
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Members of the Minnesota Board of Pardons & Clemency Review Commission,

I am writing to express my strong support for Tou Lue Vang's application for a pardon. I have had the privilege of knowing Tou Lue for the past five years and during this time, I have witnessed his sincere efforts to grow, take accountability, and make meaningful contributions to his family and the broader community.

Tou Lue has shown remarkable dedication to transforming his life. He has taken full responsibility for his past actions and committed himself to living with integrity and purpose. I have seen him actively rebuild trust through steady employment, consistent volunteer work—especially within the Hmong community—and the wisdom he offers to family and neighbors.

He serves as a MeejKoob, officiating marriage ceremonies and advising families on cultural matters related to weddings of over 100 couples. Tou Lue regularly volunteers from early morning until late at night, fulfilling community funeral duties : flute players, funeral songs for the dead, with humility and care. He is a dedicated husband and father whose actions reflect genuine transformation and civic responsibility.

He has served his time, and through his service and contributions, he has uplifted many lives in our community—mine included.

I truly believe that granting Tou Lue Vang a pardon would not only allow him to move forward without the weight of past mistakes but also enable him to continue enriching the lives of those around him. He has earned this opportunity, and I offer my full and sincere support for his application.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration. Please feel free to contact me if I can provide additional information.

Respectfully,
Ue Vang

President, Vaj Kooj Neeb Koom Txoos

July 7th, 2025

Dear Honorable Pardon Boards and Judges,

We, Thai Vang and Chi Vang, the current clan leaders of Vang family. We would like to express our gratitude for our Former head leader Tou Lue Vang. We grew up together and are like brothers. Mr. Vang is like a older brother to us who we can look up to and asked for great advices. He is a great role model to us and despite his mistakes he made in the past was a bad choice. If anyone is to get a second chance it will be Mr. Vang. Everyone make mistakes and bad choices and it has changed Mr. Vang to a better person completely. Mr. Vang has been serving and a helping hand to our family, other 17 other hmong communities and friends with his loyalty and kindness. He has been serving Vang Council of MN, an non-profit organization since he was chosen as the Vang Family Clan Leaders in 2016. Mr. Vang is still serving today as Culture boards department. He has done more than anymore can had done and given to his family. Friends and community. We look up to him when we needed help, advices or ideas when it comes to weddings, funerals, or big and small events. We couldn't have done without him. Mr. Vang is a great and the best role model anyone could ask for. We appreciate him for who he is and who he ahs become. Please pardon Mr. Vang for his past mistakes. He is well deserved for what he has done and given to the hmong families, friends, strangers and the community. We beg you pardon.

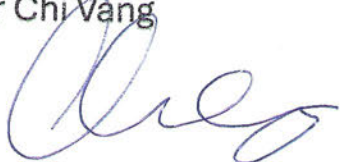
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Head leader Thai Vang



Assistant leader Chi Vang



June 16th, 2025

Dear Honorable Pardon Boards,

I am writing this letter on behalf of my family member, Tou Lue Vang, who is currently involved in a legal matter. My name is Kou Yang, and I have been a family member of Tou Lue Vang for 23 years, witnessing both his good deeds and mistakes firsthand throughout our friendship as brothers-in-law.

For years, I have come to know Tou Lue Vang as a great person of integrity, compassion, and responsibility, for his family, friends, and strangers. His dedication to helping others has been evident in every aspect of his life and has had a big impact on our lives. Tou Lue Vang has volunteered at family events or lent a helping hand to those in need, including myself.

With the passing of my beloved father, Tou Lue Vang was a big help in both Hmong cultural knowledge and finances, always willing to go the extra mile; his generosity consistently stood out. Furthermore, he has been a great role model to his children, spouse, coworkers, and friends.

I believe that Tou Lue Vang is an exceptional person who has made a positive impact on those around him; his kindness will not go unnoticed while he continues to contribute to his family, friends, community, and society.

Sincerely,

Kou Yang



Toua Vang

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] MN 55117

July 17, 2025

To whom this may concern,

My name is Toua Vang, the younger brother to Tou Lue Vang. He is the oldest brother in our family and has always been a great role model to our younger siblings with his big heart and love. Whenever our younger siblings are in need of something, neither financial hardship or anything, he never hesitates to help in which ever ways he can. I remembered when I was still in college and was not able to pay for my college tuition he played a major role in helping me make sure I was able to stay in school saying that as brothers even if he is not able to go to school, he will support me and let me be the successful one between us. Unfortunately, shortly after helping me, he was suddenly incarcerated and for a time in my life I lost an important person who was like a father to me.

After he has served his time, I see that he has learned through his mistakes and changed a lot for the better. Since his return he continues to be a good man and citizen regardless of the hardships he endured. He searched for work again to provide for his family. He attends his meetings when he is called for, works hard on being a law-abiding citizen, and does what is asked of him by his probation officer. He completed all his classes.

Now, I believe he is a changed man and deserves a second chance and should not be deported. I know at the time when he was taken, he was young, uneducated, and did not understand the full consequence of signing his right away and having the possibility of deportation, but again he has served his time, is a law-abiding citizen, and a hardworking citizen who contributes to his family and community. If he is taken away again it will be devastating for his wife especially his six children. Since his children rely heavily on their father's guidance and love. Without their father figure, it'll be unimaginable to move forward. Not only that, it will be for the Hmong community as well because he is well known among the Hmong community in practicing the Hmong culture and traditions. He has helped many Hmong families who look up to him when they are in need of someone who is able to practice the traditions of weddings, funeral processions, and important events.

Lastly, it would be devastating to me since he's my only older brother and which I can never fill his void if he is no longer here. To others he may be just another person, but to us he is the world and no one can ever replace him. Thank you for your time and please consider the hardship that his families will have to endure without him being present.

Sincerely,



Toua Vang

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF RAMSEY

STATE OF MINNESOTA

-vs-

Tou Lue Vang, Defendant
AKA:
DOB: 8/11/1983

DISTRICT COURT
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COURT FILE NO: 62-K1-05-000057

RECOMMENDATION OF THE
PROBATION OFFICER AND
ORDER OF THE COURT
DISCHARGING PROBATIONER

TO THE COURT:

WHEREAS, VANG, TOU LUE, who was heretofore on 10-31-2005 duly convicted of the crime of (Ct 1) Criminal Sexual Cond-1st Degree-Penetration or Contact with Person Under 13-Actor >36m older (609.342.1(a)) and on 02-16-2006 was sentenced to the Commissioner of Corrections for a term of 144 months, the execution of sentence was stayed and the said VANG, TOU LUE was placed on probation for a period of 30 years pursuant to the Order of the Honorable Paulette Kane Flynn, Judge of District Court,

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT VANG, TOU LUE be discharged from probation.

Dated this 5th day of March, 2019.

By:



Elizabeth Kovacs, Adult Division

Approved:



Mark Elliott, Adult Division

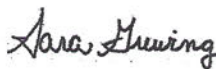
--- ORDER ---

Upon the foregoing Recommendation, and upon all the files and records herein, the Court being duly advised in the premises,

IT IS ORDERED that VANG, TOU LUE is hereby discharged from probation, restored to all civil rights and to full citizenship with full right to vote and hold office the same as if said conviction had not taken place.

This restoration of civil rights does not relieve you from any disabilities or criminal penalties described in the laws of Minnesota, any other state, or the United States regarding the ownership, use, shipment, transportation, possession, or receipt of firearms.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____.



Growing Sun (Judge)
Mar 4 2019 3:48 PM

Judge of District Court