

Defendant Convicted of Murder After Dispute, Threats on Social Media



Sacramento County
District Attorney's Office
Semper Justitia

DATE: August 19, 2020

CASE: Nue Thao (#18FE016262)

PROSECUTOR: Deputy District Attorney Maria Wilson, Gangs & Hate Crimes Unit

Nue Thao was convicted by a jury of the first-degree murder of Jonathan Lee. The jury also found true that Thao personally used and discharged a firearm causing death.

Nue Thao and the victim were in a dispute. Thao and the victim exchanged threats and name calling over Facebook. When Thao posted a threat to harm the victim's family on Facebook, the victim texted a relative to see if anyone was outside of her house. The relative told the victim a car was parked in front of her house and a man was standing outside of the car looking at her house. The victim drove to the house, where Thao and victim confronted each other. However, there was no physical altercation at that time. Eventually, Thao drove past the victim and the victim hit Thao's car with a machete. Thao got out of his car and fired 14 shots at the victim before fleeing the scene. The victim was struck in the forehead and died. Detectives were able to identify Thao through social media. The Sacramento County District Attorney's Crime Lab analyzed two casings found in Thao's car and determined they matched the casings at the crime scene.

Thao faces a maximum sentence of 50 years to life in prison.

**Sentencing is set for September 11, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. in
Department 17 before the Honorable James Arguelles.**

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