



U.S. Department of Justice

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NEWS SUMMARY

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Green Bay Store Owner and Son charged with Arson in Federal Court

United States Attorney Steven M. Biskupic announced today that Green Bay residents Mayneng Xiong (DOB: 6/03/55), her son Pao Xiong a.k.a. Danny (DOB: 1/31/85), and Xee Vue (DOB: 9/7/86) have been indicted and arrested on federal charges resulting from an investigation into the fire discovered during the early morning hours on January 8, 2006 at TMX May's Super Market (May's), located at 120 S. Broadway St. Green Bay, Wisconsin.

According to the indictment, Mayneng Xiong, Pao Xiong, and Xee Vue conspired to commit offenses against the United States including arson and mail fraud. The indictment alleges that Mayneng Xiong was being investigated for fraudulently obtaining funds from the Women, Infant and Children Program. The indictment further **alleges** that the day before the fire was discovered, Mayneng Xiong purchased twelve bottles of isopropyl alcohol and delivered them to May's. The indictment also alleges that Pao Xiong used the isopropyl alcohol and gasoline purchased by Mayneng Xiong and, either alone or in concert with others, set May's on fire. Following the fire, it is alleged that Mayneng Xiong and Pao Xiong committed mail fraud by submitting false proof of claim forms to their insurance company to collect the insurance proceeds.

In addition to the conspiracy charge, Mayneng Xiong and Pao Xiong face charges of arson and mail fraud. Pao Xiong also faces a charge of felon in possession of a firearm stemming from a search by law enforcement of his residence in January 2006, wherein a loaded handgun was seized.

The indictment alleges that Xee Vue, a friend of Pao Xiong, assisted in the conspiracy by providing false alibis for Mayneng Xiong and Pao Xiong. The indictment also charges her with being an accessory to the arson by assisting Mayneng Xiong and Pao Xiong in avoiding detection.

Mayneng Xiong, Pao Xiong and Xee Vue have all been arrested in Green Bay and are scheduled for initial appearances in federal court in Green Bay today.

“Arson is a violent crime that poses a threat to the safety of the public and first responders. The devastation that results from intentionally set fires is wide reaching. We are very pleased that the investigation into this incident has resulted in charges against these individuals and hope this will bring some measure of comfort to those affected by the fire” said Bernard Zapor, Special Agent in Charge of ATF’s St. Paul Field Division.

The charge of conspiracy carries a maximum five year term of imprisonment and \$250,000 fine. The charges of arson and mail fraud each carry a maximum term of imprisonment of twenty years and \$250,000 fine. The charge of accessory after the fact carries a maximum ten year term of imprisonment and \$125,000 fine. And the charge of felon in possession of a firearm carries a maximum ten year term of imprisonment and \$250,000 fine.

This case was investigated by the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives; the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation, Arson Bureau; the Brown County Fire Investigation Task Force; the Green Bay Police Department; and the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, Division of Public Health. The case has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney William J. Roach.

The public is cautioned that an Indictment is merely the formal method of charging an individual and does not constitute inference of his or her guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until such time, if ever, that the government establishes his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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