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**DISTRICT III**

October 5, 2021

To:

Hon. Vincent R. Biskupic  
Circuit Court Judge  
Electronic Notice

Barb Bocik  
Clerk of Circuit Court  
Outagamie County Courthouse  
Electronic Notice

Winn S. Collins  
Electronic Notice

Suzanne L. Hagopian  
Electronic Notice

Melinda J. Tempelis  
Electronic Notice

Song Leng Vang  
2191 Country Lane  
Neenah, WI 54956

You are hereby notified that the Court has entered the following opinion and order:

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2019AP615-CRNM      State of Wisconsin v. Song Leng Vang (L. C. No. 2017CF482)

Before Stark, P.J., Hruz and Gill, JJ.

**Summary disposition orders may not be cited in any court of this state as precedent or authority, except for the limited purposes specified in WIS. STAT. RULE 809.23(3).**

Counsel for Song Leng Vang has filed a no-merit report concluding no grounds exist to challenge Vang's conviction for possession of a firearm contrary to a domestic abuse injunction. Vang was informed of his right to respond to the no-merit report, and he has not responded. Upon our independent review of the record as mandated by *Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738 (1967), we conclude there is no arguable merit to any issue that could be raised on appeal.

Therefore, the judgment of conviction is summarily affirmed. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21 (2019-20).<sup>1</sup>

The complaint alleged that Vang was prohibited from possessing firearms pursuant to a domestic abuse injunction. Two witnesses reported to police that Vang threatened violence “like Wausau or worse,” stating that if his wife wanted to take everything in the couple’s divorce, he had “nothing left but to die,” and he would “not go by [himself].” Law enforcement believed that Vang’s reference to Wausau referred to then-recent events in which an estranged husband shot and killed two of his wife’s co-workers, an attorney involved in the couple’s divorce action, and a police officer. During the execution of a search warrant at Vang’s residence, law enforcement discovered a rifle and multiple rounds of ammunition.

A Hmong interpreter translated all of the circuit court proceedings for Vang. Likewise, Vang’s attorney was able to communicate with Vang “fluently.” In exchange for Vang’s no-contest plea to the crime charged, the State agreed to recommend four years of probation with twelve months of jail as a condition of probation. The defense remained free to argue at sentencing. Out of a maximum possible ten-year sentence, the circuit court imposed a six and one-half year sentence consisting of one and one-half years’ initial confinement and five years’ extended supervision.

Although the no-merit report does not address it, any claim that trial counsel was ineffective by failing to pursue a pretrial motion to suppress evidence discovered during execution of a valid search warrant would lack arguable merit. The no-merit report addresses

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<sup>1</sup> All references to the Wisconsin Statutes are to the 2019-20 version unless otherwise noted.

whether Vang knowingly, intelligently and voluntarily entered his no-contest plea; whether the circuit court properly exercised its sentencing discretion; and whether there are any grounds to pursue a motion for sentence modification. Upon reviewing the record, we agree with counsel's description, analysis and conclusion that none of these issues has arguable merit. The no-merit report sets forth an adequate discussion of the potential issues to support the no-merit conclusion, and we need not address them further. Our independent review of the record discloses no other potential issue for appeal.

Therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that the judgment is summarily affirmed. WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Attorney Suzanne L. Hagopian<sup>2</sup> is relieved of her obligation to further represent Song Leng Vang in this matter. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.32(3).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this summary disposition order will not be published.

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*Sheila T. Reiff*  
*Clerk of Court of Appeals*

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<sup>2</sup> Although Attorney Catherine R. Malchow submitted the no-merit report, Attorney Hagopian was later substituted as counsel in this matter.