

# **BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MEDIA RELEASE**

**JERRY W. SMITH  
SHERIFF-CORONER**



**DATE : January 15, 2012**

**RELEASED BY: Sgt. David Bottom**

**CONTACT # : 538-7321**

**In the early morning hours of January 14, 2012, the Moua family from Sacramento came to the French Creek area of Butte County for a squirrel hunting expedition. During the hunt at approximately 1000 hours, members of the Moua family heard Ving Moua age 53 yell out. Upon the family hearing Ving yell out, went looking for him. At approximately 1100, hours the family located Ving lying on a steep hill where he is believed to have slipped and fell down the hill. When the family reached Ving's location, he was unresponsive and believed to be deceased. The family had no cell phone reception and did not know their location. Members of the family had to hike out to an area where they could get cell phone reception to summon help.**

**At approximately 1500 hours the family was able to obtain cell phone reception where they contacted other family in the Sacramento area for help. The family members who were notified in Sacramento attempted to respond however they did not know where the hunters were located.**

**At approximately 1700 hours, the family who responded from Sacramento was in the Oroville area and did not know where to go. They then contacted the Butte County Sheriff's Office for assistance in locating the hunting party.**

**With the assistance of Butte County Search and Rescue, Butte County Sheriff's Deputies, Fish and Game, U.S. Forest Service, and Cal Fire personnel, The Moua family was located in the French Creek area at approximately 2030 hours. Upon locating the family in the French Creek area, Ving Moua was pronounced dead on scene. The cause of death is**

**unknown at this time and is believed to have been a result of injuries sustained during the fall.**

**The Sheriff's Office would like to thank all responding agencies for their assistance in locating the Moua family.**