

Crystal man pleads not guilty in brother's death

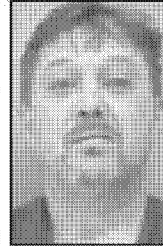
■ *Helmer's trial is expected to last three days*

BY ALISON BERGSIEKER
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

STANTON — A Crystal man charged with involuntary manslaughter in the Jan. 11 death of his brother was arraigned Thursday in 8th Judicial Circuit Court in Stanton.

Michael Eugene Helmer, 44, stood quietly alongside his attorney, John Raven of Greenville, as Judge Charles Miel entered a not-guilty plea on Helmer's behalf. Family and friends once again filled hallways and seats in the courtroom.

Helmer faces up to 15 years in prison if convicted of killing his



Michael Helmer

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brother, Randall James Helmer, 50. A fight between the two outside the Wet Spot Bar on Crystal Lake resulted in Randall Helmer's death. Michael Helmer allegedly punched his brother in the head, causing him to fall and strike his head on the ground.

Michael Helmer transported his brother to their parents' home in Crystal. Randall Helmer then was taken to Carson City

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