

1 REC-DLB. (Doc. 1, p. 35). The Court denied that petition on the merits and entered judgment on
2 September 28, 2005. (Doc. 1, p. 45). Subsequently, Petitioner filed a second or successive habeas
3 petition in this Court in case number 1:07-cv-00226-OWW-WMW, again challenging his 2002
4 conviction. (Doc. 1, p. 50). The Court dismissed that petition as a second or successive petition on
5 May 8, 2007. (Doc. 1, p. 51). On August 3, 2007, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth
6 Circuit denied Petitioner's request to file a second or successive petition. (Doc. 1, p. 52).

7 In his most recent petition, Petitioner again challenges his 2002 conviction, this time
8 contending that newly discovered evidence supports his claim that (1) the trial judge erred in
9 refusing to disqualify himself; (2) evidence regarding the victim was concealed from Petitioner
10 during trial; (3) Petitioner's counsel concealed such evidence regarding the victim; and (4)
11 Petitioner's requests to "expose the sham trial" were rejected by his appellate counsel. (Doc. 1, pp.
12 2-3).

13 DISCUSSION

14 A federal court must dismiss a second or successive petition that raises the same grounds as a
15 prior petition. 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(1). The Court must also dismiss a second or successive petition
16 raising a new ground unless the petitioner can show that 1) the claim rests on a new, retroactive,
17 constitutional right, or 2) the factual basis of the claim was not previously discoverable through due
18 diligence, and these new facts establish by clear and convincing evidence that but for the
19 constitutional error, no reasonable fact-finder would have found the applicant guilty of the
20 underlying offense. 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(2)(A)-(B). The Court assumes that Petitioner is asserting
21 that the four claims in the instant petition are based upon such newly discovered evidence.

22 However, it is not the district court that decides whether a second or successive petition
23 meets the requirements that allow a petitioner to file a second or successive petition. Section 2244
24 (b)(3)(A) expressly provides: "Before a second or successive application permitted by this section is
25 filed in the district court, the applicant shall move in the appropriate court of appeals for an order
26 authorizing the district court to consider the application." (Emphasis supplied). *In other words,*
27 *Petitioner must obtain leave from the Ninth Circuit before he can file a second or successive petition*
28 *in district court.* See Felker v. Turpin, 518 U.S. 651, 656-657 (1996). This Court must dismiss any

1 second or successive petition unless the Court of Appeals has given Petitioner leave to file the
2 petition because a district court lacks subject-matter jurisdiction over a second or successive petition.
3 Pratt v. United States, 129 F.3d 54, 57 (1st Cir. 1997); Greenawalt v. Stewart, 105 F.3d 1268, 1277
4 (9th Cir. 1997), *cert. denied*, 117 S.Ct. 794 (1997); Nunez v. United States, 96 F.3d 990, 991 (7th
5 Cir. 1996).

6 Because the current petition was filed after April 24, 1996, the provisions of the
7 Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 (AEDPA) apply to Petitioner's current
8 petition. Lindh v. Murphy, 521 U.S. 320, 327 (1997). Petitioner makes no showing that he has
9 obtained prior leave from the Ninth Circuit to file his successive petition attacking his 2002 Madera
10 County conviction. That being so, this Court has no jurisdiction to consider Petitioner's renewed
11 application for relief from that conviction under Section 2254 and must dismiss the petition. See
12 Greenawalt, 105 F.3d at 1277; Nunez, 96 F.3d at 991. If Petitioner desires to proceed in bringing
13 this petition for writ of habeas corpus, he must first file for leave to do so with the Ninth Circuit.
14 See 28 U.S.C. § 2244 (b)(3). Accordingly, the Court must dismiss the petition.

15 Moreover, the Court declines to issue a certificate of appealability. A state prisoner seeking a
16 writ of habeas corpus has no absolute entitlement to appeal a district court's denial of his petition,
17 and an appeal is only allowed in certain circumstances. Miller-El v. Cockrell, 537 U.S. 322, 335-336
18 (2003). The controlling statute in determining whether to issue a certificate of appealability is 28
19 U.S.C. § 2253, which provides as follows:

- 20 (a) In a habeas corpus proceeding or a proceeding under section 2255 before a district judge,
21 the final order shall be subject to review, on appeal, by the court of appeals for the circuit in
22 which the proceeding is held.
23 (b) There shall be no right of appeal from a final order in a proceeding to test the validity of a
24 warrant to remove to another district or place for commitment or trial a person charged with a
25 criminal offense against the United States, or to test the validity of such person's detention
26 pending removal proceedings.
27 (c)(1) Unless a circuit justice or judge issues a certificate of appealability, an appeal may not
28 be taken to the court of appeals from--
(A) the final order in a habeas corpus proceeding in which the detention
complained of arises out of process issued by a State court; or
(B) the final order in a proceeding under section 2255.
(2) A certificate of appealability may issue under paragraph (1) only if the applicant has made
a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right.
(3) The certificate of appealability under paragraph (1) shall indicate which specific issue or
issues satisfy the showing required by paragraph (2).

