



1 **DISCUSSION**

2 A. Preliminary Review of Petition.

3 Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases allows a district court to dismiss a petition  
4 if it “plainly appears from the face of the petition and any exhibits annexed to it that the petitioner is  
5 not entitled to relief in the district court . . . .” Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases. The  
6 Advisory Committee Notes to Rule 8 indicate that the court may dismiss a petition for writ of habeas  
7 corpus, either on its own motion under Rule 4, pursuant to the respondent’s motion to dismiss, or after  
8 an answer to the petition has been filed. Herbst v. Cook, 260 F.3d 1039 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir.2001).

9 B. Exhaustion.

10 A petitioner who is in state custody and wishes to collaterally challenge his conviction by a  
11 petition for writ of habeas corpus must exhaust state judicial remedies. 28 U.S.C. § 2254(b)(1). The  
12 exhaustion doctrine is based on comity to the state court and gives the state court the initial  
13 opportunity to correct the state's alleged constitutional deprivations. Coleman v. Thompson, 501 U.S.  
14 722, 731 (1991); Rose v. Lundy, 455 U.S. 509, 518 (1982); Buffalo v. Sunn, 854 F.2d 1158, 1163  
15 (9th Cir. 1988).

16 A petitioner can satisfy the exhaustion requirement by providing the highest state court with a  
17 full and fair opportunity to consider each claim before presenting it to the federal court. Duncan v.  
18 Henry, 513 U.S. 364, 365 (1995); Picard v. Connor, 404 U.S. 270, 276 (1971); Johnson v. Zenon, 88  
19 F.3d 828, 829 (9th Cir. 1996). A federal court will find that the highest state court was given a full  
20 and fair opportunity to hear a claim if the petitioner has presented the highest state court with the  
21 claim's factual and legal basis. Duncan, 513 U.S. at 365 (legal basis); Kenney v. Tamayo-Reyes, 504  
22 U.S. 1, 112 S.Ct. 1715, 1719 (1992) (factual basis).

23 Additionally, the petitioner must have specifically told the state court that he was raising a  
24 federal constitutional claim. Duncan, 513 U.S. at 365-66; Lyons v. Crawford, 232 F.3d 666, 669 (9th  
25 Cir. 2000), *amended*, 247 F.3d 904 (2001); Hiiivala v. Wood, 195 F.3d 1098, 1106 (9th Cir. 1999);  
26 Keating v. Hood, 133 F.3d 1240, 1241 (9th Cir. 1998). In Duncan, the United States Supreme Court  
27 reiterated the rule as follows:  
28

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

In Picard v. Connor, 404 U.S. 270, 275 . . . (1971), we said that exhaustion of state remedies requires that petitioners “fairly present[ed]” federal claims to the state courts in order to give the State the “opportunity to pass upon and correct alleged violations of the prisoners' federal rights” (some internal quotation marks omitted). If state courts are to be given the opportunity to correct alleged violations of prisoners' federal rights, they must surely be alerted to the fact that the prisoners are asserting claims under the United States Constitution. If a habeas petitioner wishes to claim that an evidentiary ruling at a state court trial denied him the due process of law guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment, he must say so, not only in federal court, but in state court.

Duncan, 513 U.S. at 365-366. The Ninth Circuit examined the rule further, stating:

Our rule is that a state prisoner has not “fairly presented” (and thus exhausted) his federal claims in state court *unless he specifically indicated to that court that those claims were based on federal law*. See Shumway v. Payne, 223 F.3d 982, 987-88 (9th Cir. 2000). Since the Supreme Court's decision in Duncan, this court has held that the *petitioner must make the federal basis of the claim explicit either by citing federal law or the decisions of federal courts, even if the federal basis is “self-evident,”* Gatlin v. Madding, 189 F.3d 882, 889 (9th Cir. 1999) (citing Anderson v. Harless, 459 U.S. 4, 7 . . . (1982), or the underlying claim would be decided under state law on the same considerations that would control resolution of the claim on federal grounds. Hiiuala v. Wood, 195 F3d 1098, 1106-07 (9th Cir. 1999); Johnson v. Zenon, 88 F.3d 828, 830-31 (9th Cir. 1996); . . . .

In Johnson, we explained that the petitioner must alert the state court to the fact that the relevant claim is a federal one without regard to how similar the state and federal standards for reviewing the claim may be or how obvious the violation of federal law is.

Lyons v. Crawford, 232 F.3d 666, 668-669 (9th Cir. 2000) (italics added).

Here, the petition alleges, under penalty of perjury, that Petitioner is challenging as many as seven criminal convictions in the Tuolumne County Superior Court. (Doc. 1, p. 2). The petition further alleges that Petitioner was convicted on these various cases on April 22, 2012 and sentenced on July 3, 2012, to a term of six months, the various sentences to be served concurrently. (Id.). Petitioner’s expected release date is September 30, 2012. (Id.). Petitioner acknowledges that he has not filed any direct appeals from these convictions. (Doc. 1, p. 5).<sup>1</sup>

From the foregoing, the Court concludes that Petitioner has not presented any of his claims to the California Supreme Court as required by the exhaustion doctrine. Because Petitioner has not presented his claims for federal relief to the California Supreme Court, the Court must dismiss the petition. See Calderon v. United States Dist. Court, 107 F.3d 756, 760 (9th Cir. 1997) (en banc);

---

<sup>1</sup> Petitioner indicates that he filed two “writs,” without specifying the nature of the writs nor the relief sought. (Doc. 1, p. 5). Petitioner also does not indicate the outcome, if any, of those two writs.

1 Greenawalt v. Stewart, 105 F.3d 1268, 1273 (9th Cir. 1997). The Court cannot consider a petition that  
2 is entirely unexhausted. Rose v. Lundy, 455 U.S. 509, 521-22 (1982); Calderon, 107 F.3d at 760.  
3 Therefore, the petition must be dismissed for lack of exhaustion.

4 Moreover, the Court declines to issue a certificate of appealability. A state prisoner seeking a  
5 writ of habeas corpus has no absolute entitlement to appeal a district court’s denial of his petition, and  
6 an appeal is only allowed in certain circumstances. Miller-El v. Cockrell, 537 U.S. 322, 335-336  
7 (2003). The controlling statute in determining whether to issue a certificate of appealability is 28  
8 U.S.C. § 2253, which provides as follows:

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

25 If a court denied a petitioner’s petition, the court may only issue a certificate of appealability  
26 when a petitioner makes a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right. 28 U.S.C. §  
27 2253(c)(2). To make a substantial showing, the petitioner must establish that “reasonable jurists could  
28 debate whether (or, for that matter, agree that) the petition should have been resolved in a different  
manner or that the issues presented were ‘adequate to deserve encouragement to proceed further.’”  
Slack v. McDaniel, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000) (*quoting* Barefoot v. Estelle, 463 U.S. 880, 893 (1983)).

In the present case, the Court finds that Petitioner has not made the required substantial

1 showing of the denial of a constitutional right to justify the issuance of a certificate of appealability.  
2 Reasonable jurists would not find the Court's determination that Petitioner is not entitled to federal  
3 habeas corpus relief debatable, wrong, or deserving of encouragement to proceed further. Thus, the  
4 Court DECLINES to issue a certificate of appealability.

5 **ORDER**

6 For the foregoing reasons, the Court HEREBY ORDERS as follows:

- 7 1. The petition for writ of habeas corpus (Doc. 1), is DISMISSED for lack of exhaustion;
- 8 2. The Clerk of the Court is DIRECTED to enter judgment and close the file; and,
- 9 3. The Court DECLINES to issue a certificate of appealability.

10  
11  
12 IT IS SO ORDERED.

13 Dated: October 17, 2012

/s/ Jennifer L. Thurston  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE