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6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
7 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
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10 MATTA J. SANTOS,

11 Petitioner,

12 v.

13 K. HOLLAND,

14 Respondent.  
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1:14 -cv-01929-SKO (HC)

ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR  
APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL

(Document#2)

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17 Petitioner has requested the appointment of counsel. There currently exists no  
18 absolute right to appointment of counsel in habeas proceedings. See, e.g., Anderson v.  
19 Heinze, 258 F.2d 479, 481 (9th Cir. 1958); Mitchell v. Wyrick, 727 F.2d 773, 774 (8th Cir.  
20 1984). However, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(a)(2)(B) authorizes the appointment of counsel at any  
21 stage of the case if "the interests of justice so require." See Rule 8(c), Rules Governing  
22 Section 2254 Cases. Here, the petition is at the screening stage and does not appear to  
23 present difficult or complex issues. Thus, in the present case, the Court does not find that  
24 the interests of justice require the appointment of counsel at the present time. Accordingly,  
25 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Petitioner's request for appointment of counsel is  
26 DENIED.  
IT IS SO ORDERED.

27 Dated: December 9, 2014

/s/ Sheila K. Oberto  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
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