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8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
9 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
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11 RAMON LOPEZ TAPIA,

12 Petitioner,

13 v.

14 KELLY SANTORO,

15 Respondent.
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Case No. 1:17-cv-00060-LJO-JLT (HC)

ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR
APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL

[Doc. 21]

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

25 IT IS SO ORDERED.
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27 Dated: September 5, 2017

/s/ Jennifer L. Thurston
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
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