

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JOHNNY LEE BRIGGS, ) Case No.: 1:17-cv-01497-JLT (HC)  
Petitioner, )  
v. ) ORDER DISMISSING PETITION WITH LEAVE  
D. BAUGHMAN, Warden, et al., ) TO FILE A FIRST AMENDED PETITION  
Respondents. ) [THIRTY DAY DEADLINE]  
)  
)

Petitioner filed a federal habeas petition in the Central District of California on October 31, 2017. On November 7, 2017, the District Court determined venue was proper in the Eastern District and transferred the case. A preliminary screening of the petition reveals that the petition fails to present any cognizable grounds for relief. Therefore, the Court will DISMISS the petition with leave to file an amended petition.

## **I. DISCUSSION**

#### A. Preliminary Review of Petition

Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases requires the Court to make a preliminary review of each petition for writ of habeas corpus. The Court must summarily dismiss a petition “[i]f it plainly appears from the petition and any attached exhibits that the petitioner is not entitled to relief in the district court . . . .” Rule 4; O’Bremski v. Maass, 915 F.2d 418, 420 (9th Cir. 1990). The Advisory

1 Committee Notes to Rule 8 indicate that the Court may dismiss a petition for writ of habeas corpus,  
2 either on its own motion under Rule 4, pursuant to the respondent's motion to dismiss, or after an  
3 answer to the petition has been filed.

4       B. Failure to State a Cognizable Federal Claim

5       The basic scope of habeas corpus is prescribed by statute. Title 28 U.S.C. § 2254(a) states:

6       The Supreme Court, a Justice thereof, a circuit judge, or a district court shall entertain  
7       an application for a writ of habeas corpus in behalf of a person in custody pursuant to a  
8       judgment of a State court *only on the ground that he is in custody in violation of the  
Constitution or laws or treaties of the United States.*

9 (emphasis added). See also Rule 1 to the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases in the United States  
10 District Court. The Supreme Court has held that "the essence of habeas corpus is an attack by a  
11 person in custody upon the legality of that custody . . ." Preiser v. Rodriguez, 411 U.S. 475, 484  
12 (1973).

13       In order to succeed in a petition pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254, Petitioner must demonstrate that  
14 the adjudication of his claim in state court

15       (1) resulted in a decision that was contrary to, or involved an unreasonable application  
16       of, clearly established Federal law, as determined by the Supreme Court of the United  
17       States; or (2) resulted in a decision that was based on an unreasonable determination of  
18       the facts in light of the evidence presented in the State court proceeding.

19       28 U.S.C. § 2254(d)(1),(2).

20       In addition to the above, Rule 2(c) of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases requires that the  
21 petition:

22       (1) Specify all the grounds for relief available to the petitioner;  
23       (2) State the facts supporting each ground;  
24       (3) State the relief requested;  
25       (4) Be printed, typewritten, or legibly handwritten; and  
26       (5) Be signed under penalty of perjury by the petitioner or by a person authorized to sign it for  
27       the petitioner under 28 U.S.C. § 2242.

28       In this case, Petitioner's claims are unintelligible. In the space provided for his ground for  
relief, Petitioner states:

29       Due process to speedy trial and revocation hearing compromise by unnessary [sic] delay  
30       and illegal evidence Valdivia permanent injunction parole revocation time restraint

1 requirements violated by Board of Prison Terms and Fresno Superior Court for case  
2 F10901778 without good cause to delay or denie [sic] due process.

3 See Pet. at 5.

4 Petitioner fails to specify any discernable ground for relief, he provides no facts in support, and  
5 he fails to state the relief requested. Moreover, he fails to state a violation of his constitutional rights,  
6 and he fails to state how the denial of his claim by the state court was contrary to or an unreasonable  
7 application of Supreme Court authority, or an unreasonable determination of the facts. Merely  
8 claiming a violation of due process does not state a claim. Notice pleading is not sufficient; the  
9 petition must state facts that point to a real possibility of constitutional error. Blackledge v. Allison,  
10 431 U.S. 63, 75 n.7 (1977). Petitioner's allegations are vague, conclusory, and unintelligible and are  
11 therefore subject to summary dismissal. Hendricks v. Vasquez, 908 F.2d 490, 491 (9th Cir. 1990).

12 Petitioner will be granted an opportunity to file a First Amended Petition curing these  
13 deficiencies. Petitioner is advised that he should entitle his pleading, "First Amended Petition," and he  
14 should reference the instant case number. Failure to comply with this order will result in dismissal of  
15 the action.

16 **III. ORDER**

17 Accordingly, the Court **ORDERS**:

18 1) The Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus is DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE for  
19 failure to state a claim; and  
20 2) Petitioner is GRANTED thirty days from the date of service of this order to file a First  
21 Amended Petition.

22  
23 IT IS SO ORDERED.

24 Dated: November 8, 2017

25 /s/ Jennifer L. Thurston  
26 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
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