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substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right. Accordingly, a certificate of appealability should not issue in this action.

Petitioner has also requested the appointment of counsel. There currently exists no absolute right to appointment of counsel in habeas proceedings. See Nevius v. Sumner, 105 F.3d 453, 460 (9th Cir. 1996). However, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A authorizes the appointment of counsel at any stage of the case "if the interests of justice so require." See Rule 8(c), Fed. R. Governing § 2254 Cases. In the present case, the court does not find that the interests of justice would be served by the appointment of counsel at the present time.

## IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

- Petitioner's request for the issuance of a certificate of appealability (docket no.
  is denied; and
  - 2. Petitioner's motion for the appointment of counsel (docket no. 50) is denied.

Dated: April 11, 2010

GARLAND E. BURRELL, JR. United States District Judge