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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

WILLIAM MAY ATHERTON,

Petitioner,

No. CIV S-08-0555 GEB EFB P

vs.

MIKE KNOWLES, Warden,

Respondent.

ORDER

_____/

Petitioner is a state prisoner proceeding without counsel in an action brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2254. He has requested that the court appoint 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). The court may appointment counsel at any stage of the proceedings “if the interests of justice so require.” *See* 18 U.S.C. § 3006A; *see also*, Rule 8(c), Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases. The court does not find that the interests of justice would be served by the appointment of counsel at this stage of the proceedings.

Accordingly, it hereby is ORDERED that petitioner’s April 3, 2009, motion for appointment of counsel is denied without prejudice.

DATED: April 14, 2009.


EDMUND F. BRENNAN
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE