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

ZEFERINO ORTIZ VASQUEZ,

Petitioner,

No. 2:09-cv-3141 GEB KJN P

vs.

MICHAEL MARTEL, et al.,

ORDER and

Respondents.

FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

\_\_\_\_\_ /

I. Introduction

Petitioner is a state prisoner proceeding through counsel with an application for petition of writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. Before the court is respondents' motion to dismiss the pending habeas petition as barred by the statute of limitations. Petitioner has filed an opposition to the motion and respondent has filed a reply. For the reasons set forth below, the undersigned recommends that respondents' motion be granted.

II. Statutory Tolling

As noted by respondents, it is undisputed that the statute of limitations period expired before petitioner filed the instant petition. However, to assist the court in evaluating petitioner's claim that he is entitled to equitable tolling, the court first addresses the issue of statutory tolling.

1 On April 24, 1996, the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act  
2 (“AEDPA”) was enacted. Section 2244(d)(1) of Title 8 of the United States Code provides:

3 A 1-year period of limitation shall apply to an application for a writ  
4 of habeas corpus by a person in custody pursuant to the judgment  
of a State court. The limitation period shall run from the latest of –

5 (A) the date on which the judgment became final by the conclusion  
6 of direct review or the expiration of the time for seeking such  
review;

7 (B) the date on which the impediment to filing an application  
8 created by State action in violation of the Constitution or laws of  
the United States is removed, if the applicant was prevented from  
filing by such State action;

9 (C) the date on which the constitutional right asserted was initially  
10 recognized by the Supreme Court, if the right has been newly  
11 recognized by the Supreme Court and made retroactively  
applicable to cases on collateral review; or

12 (D) the date on which the factual predicate of the claim or claims  
13 presented could have been discovered through the exercise of due  
diligence.

14 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d)(1). Section 2244(d)(2) provides that “the time during which a properly filed  
15 application for State post-conviction or other collateral review with respect to the pertinent  
16 judgment or claim is pending shall not be counted toward” the limitations period. 28 U.S.C.  
17 § 2244(d)(2).

18 For purposes of the statute of limitations analysis, the relevant chronology of this  
19 case is as follows:

20 1. Petitioner was convicted on June 14, 2001, of twenty-six counts of lewd and  
21 lascivious acts with a child under the age of fourteen years, twenty-two counts of lewd acts with  
22 a child by force, and one count of sodomy. (Respondents’ Lodged Document (“LD”) 1.) On  
23 July 20, 2001, petitioner was sentenced to a determinate state prison term of 144 years. (LD 1.)

24 2. No appeal of the conviction was filed.

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1           3. Under the mailbox rule,<sup>1</sup> petitioner filed his first petition for writ of habeas  
2 corpus in the Sacramento County Superior Court on June 28, 2007. (LD 2.) The petition was  
3 denied on August 28, 2007, citing In re Robbins, 18 Cal. 4th 770, 780 (1998). (LD 3.)

4           4. On October 5, 2007, petitioner filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus in the  
5 California Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District. (LD 4.)<sup>2</sup> The petition was denied on  
6 February 18, 2009. (LD 6.)

7           5. On April 30, 2009, petitioner filed another petition for writ of habeas corpus in  
8 the California Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District. (LD 9.) The Court of Appeal denied  
9 the petition on May 7, 2009. (LD 10.)

10           6. Petitioner filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus in the California Supreme  
11 Court on May 20, 2009. (LD 11.) The California Supreme Court denied the petition on October  
12 28, 2009. (LD 12.)

13           7. The instant action was filed on November 9, 2009. (Dkt. No. 1.)

14           As noted above, it is undisputed that no appeal was filed. Therefore, the July 20,  
15 2001 state court judgment became final on September 18, 2001, the final day on which a notice  
16 of appeal was due. Cal. R.Ct. 30.1 (West 2001). Therefore, the AEDPA statute of limitations  
17 period began to run the following day, on September 19, 2001. Patterson v. Stewart, 251 F.3d  
18 1243, 1246 (9th Cir. 2001). The limitations period ran from September 19, 2001, through  
19 September 18, 2002, on which date the limitations period expired.

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21           <sup>1</sup> Houston v. Lack, 487 U.S. 266 (1988). All subsequent dates of filing by petitioner  
reflect benefit of the mailbox rule.

22           <sup>2</sup> On February 8, 2008, the California Court of Appeal issued an order to show cause to  
23 the Sacramento County Superior Court. (LD 5.) The Sacramento County Superior Court  
24 revisited the issue of ineffective assistance of counsel in connection with defense counsel's  
25 failure to file a notice of appeal on petitioner's behalf, but found petitioner was not diligent in  
26 pursuing his rights. (LD 6.) "Six years is an extraordinarily long time to wait after  
acknowledging twice that [petitioner] understood that the time limit for filing an appeal was 60  
days." (Id. at 6.) Subsequently, petitioner filed a motion for reconsideration in the superior  
court. (LD 7.) The Sacramento County Superior Court denied the motion, finding petitioner had  
not provided a sufficient reason to reconsider the ruling. (LD 8.)

1           On June 28, 2007, petitioner filed his first state habeas petition. However, by that  
2 date, the federal statute of limitations period had expired. State habeas petitions filed after the  
3 one-year statute of limitations has expired do not revive the statute of limitations and have no  
4 tolling effect. See Ferguson v. Palmateer, 321 F.3d 820, 823 (9th Cir. 2003); Jimenez v. Rice,  
5 276 F.3d 478, 482 (9th Cir. 2001). Therefore, petitioner’s state habeas petitions have no effect  
6 on calculation of the limitations period.

7           The instant petition was not filed until November 9, 2009, over seven years after  
8 the statute of limitations period expired. Accordingly, this action is time-barred unless petitioner  
9 can demonstrate he is entitled to equitable tolling.

### 10 III. Equitable Tolling

11           Petitioner alleges that he is entitled to equitable tolling because he relied on his  
12 attorney to file the appeal of petitioner’s conviction, but the attorney failed to file the appeal.  
13 Petitioner argues he should be entitled to equitable tolling based on his defense attorney’s  
14 ineffective assistance of counsel because the failure to file the appeal deprived petitioner of the  
15 entire appellate process and started the AEDPA one-year statute of limitations to run without  
16 petitioner’s knowledge. Petitioner contends that he has limited or no English skills, has a limited  
17 education, and has a limited history with the state judicial system.

18           In Holland v. Florida, 130 S.Ct. 2549, 2560, 2562, 2564 (2010), the Supreme  
19 Court recognized that the AEDPA statute of limitations “may be tolled for equitable reasons”  
20 when the petitioner has made a showing of “extraordinary circumstances.” To be entitled to  
21 equitable tolling, petitioner must demonstrate "(1) that he has been pursuing his rights diligently,  
22 and (2) that some extraordinary circumstance stood in his way." Pace v. DiGuglielmo, 544 U.S.  
23 408, 418 (2005). The Ninth Circuit has explained:

24           To apply the doctrine in “extraordinary circumstances” necessarily  
25 suggests the doctrine’s rarity, and the requirement that  
26 extraordinary circumstances “stood in his way” suggests that an  
external force must cause the untimeliness, rather than, as we have  
said, merely “oversight, miscalculation or negligence on [the

1 petitioner's] part, all of which would preclude the application of  
2 equitable tolling.

3 Waldron-Ramsey v. Pacholke, 556 F.3d 1008, 1011 (9th Cir. 2009) (internal citation omitted),  
4 cert. denied, 130 S.Ct. 244 (2009). It is petitioner's burden to show he is entitled to equitable  
5 tolling. Espinoza-Matthews v. People of the State of California, 432 F.3d 1021, 1026 (9th Cir.  
6 2005). "[T]he threshold necessary to trigger equitable tolling [under AEDPA] is very high, lest  
7 the exceptions swallow the rule." Spitsyn v. Moore, 345 F.3d 796, 799 (9th Cir. 2003) (citation  
8 omitted).

9 The diligence prong in Pace requires the petitioner to show he engaged in  
10 reasonably diligent efforts to file his § 2254 petition throughout the time the limitations period  
11 was running. Mendoza v. Carey, 449 F.3d 1065, 1071 n.6 (9th Cir. 2006) (stating that equitable  
12 tolling "requires both the presence of an extraordinary circumstance and the inmate's exercise of  
13 diligence"). The petitioner must also demonstrate that he exercised reasonable diligence in  
14 attempting to file his habeas petition after the extraordinary circumstances began, otherwise the  
15 "link of causation between the extraordinary circumstances and the failure to file [is] broken."  
16 Spitsyn, 345 F.3d at 802. The "extraordinary circumstances" prong in Pace requires the  
17 petitioner to "additionally show that the extraordinary circumstances were the cause of his  
18 untimeliness, and that the extraordinary circumstances made it impossible to file a petition on  
19 time." Ramirez v. Yates, 571 F.3d 993, 997 (9th Cir. 2009) (internal quotations and citations  
20 omitted).

21 a. Alleged Barriers

22 Petitioner argues that language, education or other barriers impeded his ability to  
23 pursue his rights. Petitioner provides nothing by way of affidavit to support the claims in the  
24 opposition, other than the declarations by petitioner and a fellow inmate, Salvador Mena,  
25 appended to the pro se petition.

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1 The case of Mendoza v. Carey is instructive. The Ninth Circuit held:

2 [the] combination of (1) a prison law library’s lack of Spanish-  
3 language legal materials, and (2) a petitioner’s inability to obtain  
4 translation assistance before the one-year deadline, could constitute  
5 extraordinary circumstances.

6 Id., 449 F.3d at 1069. However, the court then determined the record was insufficient to show  
7 whether Mendoza had exercised the requisite diligence and remanded the case to allow the  
8 district court to clarify ambiguous facts. Id., 449 F.3d at 1071 n.6. The Ninth Circuit stated that  
9 “a non-English speaking petitioner seeking equitable tolling must, at a minimum, demonstrate  
10 that during the running of the AEDPA time limitation, he was unable, despite diligent efforts, to  
11 procure either legal materials in his own language or translation assistance from an inmate,  
12 library personnel, or other source.” Id., 449 F.3d at 1070; see also Rodriguez v. Evans, 2007 WL  
13 951820 at \*4-5 (N.D. Cal. 2007) (Rodriguez’ allegations that he does not speak English and had  
14 to get someone to help him prepare his petition<sup>3</sup> were an inadequate basis for equitable tolling  
15 because Rodriguez failed to make the detailed showing required by Mendoza.)

16 In his petition for writ of habeas corpus, Mendoza “had not provided any  
17 explanation for the lengthy delay in filing, other than the allegation that he had been hindered  
18 because he speaks Spanish and the prison does not provide Spanish language law books.”  
19 Mendoza, 449 F.3d at 1067. However, in Mendoza’s response to the order to show cause,  
20 Mendoza provided detailed facts concerning two different prison law libraries, and a declaration  
21 concerning his efforts to obtain legal materials in Spanish, to find staff persons who spoke  
22 Spanish, and to find inmates who spoke Spanish. Id. at 1067-68. Mendoza also filed 47  
23 identical, form declarations signed by Spanish-speaking prisoners, confirming that the prison law  
24 libraries had no books in Spanish and no librarians or clerks who spoke Spanish. Id. at 1068.

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25 <sup>3</sup> In Rodriguez, there was no indication that an assistant or jailhouse lawyer prepared the  
26 petition or other pleadings. Id., at \*4 n.3. Here, petitioner has provided a declaration by another  
inmate who states he assisted petitioner. (Dkt. No. 1.)

1           In the instant case, petitioner is a Mexican national who usually speaks and writes  
2 in Spanish. (Dkt. No. 40 at 3.) Petitioner “is not proficient in speaking or writing in English.”  
3 (Id.) Petitioner “does not read or write in the English language.” (Id.) Petitioner “relied on  
4 others to assist him.” (Id.) Indeed, another inmate assisted petitioner in filing the instant  
5 petition. (Dkt. No. 1.) However, unlike Mendoza, petitioner does not allege that despite his  
6 diligent efforts he was unable to secure legal materials in his own language or to obtain  
7 translation help from other inmates, library personnel or other sources. The declarations of  
8 petitioner and inmate Mena recite no efforts taken to seek legal assistance in Spanish or English.  
9 See Diaz v. Kelly, 515 F.3d 149, 154 (2d Cir. 2008), cert. denied sub nom. Diaz v. Conway, 129  
10 S.Ct. 168 (2008) (in equitable tolling context, a petitioner has “a substantial obligation to obtain  
11 assistance to mitigate his language deficiency”).<sup>4</sup> Indeed, it was not until on or about June 14,  
12 2007, six years after the June 14, 2001 conviction, that petitioner “asked a fellow inmate, known  
13 to assist others, if he would help with [petitioner’s] appeal.” (Dkt. No. 1 at 76.) Petitioner has  
14 made no showing of any diligence in obtaining translating and legal assistance between the  
15 beginning of the statute of limitations period and June 2007 when he filed his first state petition.  
16 Unlike Mendoza, petitioner has failed to identify specific facts that demonstrate it was his  
17 language barrier, rather than his lack of diligence, that prevented him from timely pursuing this  
18 action.<sup>5</sup>

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20           <sup>4</sup> In Diaz, the Second Circuit held that prisoners are required to take steps to contact  
21 someone who speaks their language outside the prison who might assist in learning about the  
22 legal requirements for filing a habeas corpus petition, and to make efforts to learn of such  
23 requirements within their places of confinement to demonstrate diligence for purposes of  
24 equitable tolling. Id.

25           <sup>5</sup> Petitioner’s counsel has had sufficient time to develop the basic facts supporting these  
26 barriers and the element of diligence. The instant action was filed on November 12, 2009. On  
December 18, 2009, present counsel was substituted to represent petitioner. There was extensive  
briefing on petitioner’s motion to stay. By order filed June 8, 2010, the motion to stay was  
denied, and the parties were provided specific legal authority governing factual requirements for  
equitable tolling. (Dkt. No. 24 at 2.) This authority included the element that petitioner “has  
been pursuing his rights diligently.” (Id.) Finally, on August 11, 2010, the court noted that while

1           Although petitioner claims to have a limited education, petitioner fails to explain  
2 what education he has, or demonstrate how his education is limited. Courts have recognized that  
3 a low educational level, even to the point of illiteracy, does not automatically entitle an inmate to  
4 equitable tolling. Cobas v. Burgess, 306 F.3d 441, 444 (6th Cir. 2002) (inability to understand  
5 English not necessarily a basis for equitable tolling);<sup>6</sup> Turner v. Johnson, 177 F.3d 390, 392 (5th  
6 Cir. 1999) (unfamiliarity with the law due to illiteracy not sufficient); Adkins v. Warden, 585  
7 F.Supp.2d 286, 298-99 (D.Conn. 2008) (educational deficits). Without more, this court cannot  
8 find that it was petitioner’s limited education, rather than his lack of diligence, that prevented  
9 him from pursuing this action.

10           Petitioner also claims that he does not have an extensive history with the state  
11 judicial system and had never appealed a prior criminal case. However, in Raspberry, the Ninth  
12 Circuit joined those Circuits that have held that a pro se petitioner’s ignorance of the law and/or  
13 lack of legal sophistication does not qualify as an extraordinary circumstance that warrants  
14 equitable tolling. Raspberry v. Garcia, 448 F.3d 1150, 1154 (9th Cir. 2006); see also Hinton v.  
15 Pacific Enterprises, 5 F.3d 391, 396-97 (9th Cir. 1993) (mere ignorance of the law generally is an  
16 insufficient basis to warrant equitable tolling); Fisher v. Ramirez-Palmer, 219 F.Supp.2d 1076,  
17 1080 (E.D. Cal. 2002) (“[I]gnorance of the law does not constitute such extraordinary  
18 circumstances (citations omitted).”); Sperling v. White, 30 F.Supp.2d 1246, 1254 (C.D.Cal.  
19 1998) (citing with approval cases from various circuits rejecting equitable tolling based on  
20 petitioner’s lack of legal experience or illiteracy). In ruling on petitioner’s state court petition,

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21 petitioner had briefed his position on the merits, he had failed to (a) explain the delay in pursuing  
22 his state court remedies, (b) address his diligence in pursuing his rights, or (c) address any  
23 extraordinary circumstances that allegedly stood in his way. (Dkt. No. 39 at 2.) Petitioner’s  
24 second request for stay was denied, and petitioner was granted an extension of time to oppose the  
25 motion to dismiss. (Id. at 3.)

26           <sup>6</sup> The court in Cobas ultimately found that the petitioner was not entitled to tolling  
because the petitioner could communicate in English, as evidenced by a 1993 detailed letter to  
appellate counsel written in English. See Cobas, 306 F.3d at 444. No such evidence is before  
this court.



1 the state superior court judge stated, “an inmate does not have to be well-versed in legal practice  
2 to have enough curiosity to make an inquiry.” (LD 6 at 5.)

3 The state superior court also stated that “[i]t is true that petitioner had limited  
4 education, a language problem and lacked understanding of the legal system.” (LD 7 at 6.) But  
5 even assuming, arguendo, that petitioner suffered from these barriers, petitioner has not  
6 demonstrated he was diligent, as this court addresses next.

7 b. Diligence

8 On the facts of this case, the issue of lack of diligence is dispositive. Petitioner  
9 argues that “reasonable diligence,” not “maximum feasible diligence,” is required to demonstrate  
10 petitioner is entitled to equitable tolling. (Dkt. No. 40 at 7, citing Holland, 130 S.Ct. at 2565.)  
11 However, unlike the instant petitioner, in Holland v. Florida, *supra*, Mr. Holland “not only wrote  
12 his attorney numerous letters,” he “also repeatedly contacted the state courts, their clerks, and the  
13 Florida State Bar Association.” Holland, 130 S.Ct. at 2565. In addition, Mr. Holland filed his  
14 federal petition five weeks late; whereas petitioner filed his federal petition over seven years too  
15 late.

16 Here, despite the fact that the record reflects petitioner was advised that he had  
17 sixty days in which to file an appeal (LD 9), and petitioner stated he understood (LD 3),<sup>7</sup>  
18 petitioner took no further action to protect his rights. It appears he did not call or write his  
19 attorney, or call or write to any court, even in his native language. Despite petitioner’s request to  
20 defense counsel that she visit him in the county jail prior to his transfer to state prison to discuss  
21 the appeal and other matters, petitioner made no further inquiry of counsel after petitioner was  
22 transferred to state prison, and defense counsel failed to visit or otherwise contact petitioner.  
23 Even given petitioner’s language barrier or lack of education, addressed above, petitioner’s  
24 failure to take any documented action for over six years after his conviction cannot be construed

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25 <sup>7</sup> The court notes that the transcript from the sentencing hearing does not reflect that a  
26 translator was present. (Dkt. No. 1 at 35-45.)

1 as reasonable diligence. See Bryant v. Arizona Atty. Gen., 499 F.3d 1056 (9th Cir. 2007)  
2 (Bryant made no effort to seek relief between the denial of his last Rule 32 petition in October  
3 1994, and the filing of the motion to recall the mandate in March 2000, thus not entitled to  
4 equitable tolling.)

5           Petitioner’s counsel states, for the first time, that petitioner “inquired as to the  
6 status of his appeal on or about the anniversary date of the judgment of conviction.”<sup>8</sup> (Dkt. No.  
7 40 at 8.) Petitioner was convicted on June 14, 2001, so the inquiry allegedly occurred on or  
8 about June 13, 2002, over three months before the statute of limitations period expired. First,  
9 petitioner has presented no supporting facts to explain or clarify this conclusory statement.  
10 Petitioner has provided no declaration attesting to this alleged inquiry or describing the inquiry.  
11 Petitioner has failed to identify to whom this alleged inquiry was made, or the response from the  
12 person or entity to whom he made the inquiry. More importantly, petitioner failed to state what  
13 steps he took, if any, either in answer to any response, or in answer to any failure to respond to  
14 that inquiry.<sup>9</sup> Second, petitioner has failed to also explain why he waited another five years  
15 before asking another inmate to assist him. Third, petitioner could have filed a state habeas  
16 petition soon after his inquiry on or about June 13, 2002, which would have tolled the federal  
17 statute of limitations period, and may have persuaded the state court to allow petitioner to

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18           <sup>8</sup> This fact is not included in the petition or in petitioner’s declaration submitted with the  
19 petition. (Dkt. No. 1 at 76-78.)

20           <sup>9</sup> In the joint scheduling statement filed by petitioner’s counsel, petitioner’s counsel, in  
21 evaluating the state court’s resolution of petitioner’s habeas claims, states that:

22                           However, the state court does not address trial counsel’s role in  
23                           this matter. Trial counsel is never mentioned and her failure to  
                              answer or respond to the letter sent to her by petitioner are never  
                              addressed.

24 (Dkt. No. 25 at 7.) In the opposition to the pending motion, petitioner fails to mention any letter  
25 to trial counsel and does not provide a copy of any letter. Thus, it is unclear whether the  
26 “inquiry” on or about June 13, 2002, was a letter from petitioner to trial counsel. But if the  
inquiry was a letter to trial counsel, and counsel failed to respond, petitioner should have taken  
steps, prior to June 2007, to find out if an appeal had been filed.

1 proceed with a late appeal under the circumstances. As the state superior court judge said: “If  
2 petitioner had been diligent, he may have been entitled to constructive filing of a late appeal.”  
3 (LD 3.) Petitioner has not demonstrated he was diligent between June 13, 2002, and September  
4 18, 2002, the date the statute of limitations period ran.

5           Petitioner eventually availed himself of the assistance of another inmate in June  
6 of 2007. (Dkt. No. 1 at 20.) However, petitioner has failed to explain why he was unable to seek  
7 the assistance of another inmate after the sixty day appeal period expired and he heard nothing  
8 further from his lawyer, or after defense counsel failed to visit him in the jail, or later, after he  
9 inquired as to the status of his appeal on or about June 13, 2002. While conditions of  
10 confinement are harsh, prisons have law libraries, litigation coordinators, other staff, other  
11 inmates, and jailhouse lawyers, all of which petitioner has failed to demonstrate he availed  
12 himself of in a timely manner. Even in the face of serious mental illness, habeas petitioners are  
13 charged with diligently pursuing their rights: “With respect to the necessary diligence, the  
14 petitioner must diligently seek assistance and exploit whatever assistance is reasonably  
15 available.” Bills v. Clark, 2010 WL 4968692 (9th Cir. 2010).<sup>10</sup> Petitioner has failed to  
16 demonstrate he timely or diligently sought the assistance that is available in prison.

17           Petitioner makes much of defense counsel’s alleged ineffective assistance based  
18 on defense counsel’s failure to file an appeal as petitioner requested, relying heavily on Roe v.

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19           <sup>10</sup> The Ninth Circuit remanded Bills to the district court after stating:

20                           to evaluate whether a petitioner is entitled to equitable tolling, the  
21                           district court must: (1) find the petitioner has made a non-frivolous  
22                           showing that he had a severe mental impairment during the filing  
23                           period that would entitle him to an evidentiary hearing; (2)  
24                           determine, after considering the record, whether the petitioner  
25                           satisfied his burden that he was in fact mentally impaired; (3)  
26                           determine whether the petitioner's mental impairment made it  
                              impossible to timely file on his own; and (4) consider whether the  
                              circumstances demonstrate the petitioner was otherwise diligent in  
                              attempting to comply with the filing requirements.

Bills, 2010 WL 4968692 at \*8 (emphasis added).

1 Flores-Ortega, 528 U.S. 470 (2000).<sup>11</sup> The instant record reflects that petitioner stated he wanted  
2 to appeal the judgment, yet no appeal was filed. (LD 9.) And, failure to file an appeal if  
3 requested by a client is very serious, as explained in Roe. Id. However, the Roe decision did not  
4 involve the one-year limitations period. Roe, 528 U.S. 470. Thus, the Roe decision does not  
5 bear upon the relevant issue before the court of whether the petition is time-barred by operation  
6 of 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d).

7 For all of the above reasons, this court finds that petitioner has failed to  
8 demonstrate he acted diligently in filing his federal petition.<sup>12</sup> Because of this failure, petitioner  
9 is not entitled to equitable tolling.<sup>13</sup> Respondents’ motion to dismiss should be granted.

#### 10 IV. Evidentiary Hearing

11 Petitioner requests that an evidentiary hearing be conducted to “develop additional  
12 facts related to his ability to communicate with his attorney and other efforts that would support a  
13 finding that he acted diligently.” (Dkt. No. 40 at 9.) However, unlike Mendoza, petitioner has  
14 failed to provide sufficient facts or other evidence to demonstrate an evidentiary hearing is

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16 <sup>11</sup> In Roe, the defense attorney failed to file an appeal. Id. Roe attempted to file a notice  
17 of appeal about four months after sentencing, which was denied as untimely. Id. at 474. Roe  
18 then sought state habeas relief, which was unavailing. Id. at 474. The question posed in Roe was  
19 “[i]s counsel deficient for not filing a notice of appeal when the defendant has not clearly  
20 conveyed his wishes one way or the other?” Id. at 477. Addressing the merits of the underlying  
21 petition, the Supreme Court held that a claim of ineffective assistance of counsel with respect to  
22 advice and consultation regarding right to appeal, that is promptly raised by the prisoner, may be  
23 a basis for habeas relief in the form of permission to file a late appeal. Roe, 528 U.S. at 484  
24 (emphasis added).

25 <sup>12</sup> In light of this finding, the court need not address the issue of extraordinary  
26 circumstances.

27 <sup>13</sup> Even actual innocence claims cannot avoid the statute of limitations bar. In Lee v.  
28 Lampert, 610 F.3d 1125, 1136 (9th Cir. 2010), the Ninth Circuit joined four other circuits in  
29 holding that “there is no Schlup actual innocence exception to override AEDPA’s statute of  
30 limitations.” Lee, 610 F.3d at 1136, citing Schlup v. Delo, 513 U.S. 298 (1995). Although  
31 petitioner alludes to an “insufficient evidence” claim, on February 18, 2009, the Sacramento  
32 County Superior Court Judge noted that: “Reviving the process six years after sentencing, when,  
33 as his habeas counsel has acknowledged, petitioner provided a videotaped statement essentially  
34 admitting the elements of the charged offenses is particularly inappropriate when petitioner  
35 waited without explanation to raise his claims.” (LD 6.)

1 warranted. See Mendoza at 1067-68, 1071 (Mendoza filed detailed declaration and 47  
2 declarations by other inmates attesting to lack of Spanish-language materials in the prison library  
3 as well as lack of translation assistance.); Tibbs v. Adams, Case No. 2:05-cv-2334 LKK KJM P  
4 (Dkt. No. 39) (Tibbs’ counsel provided detailed supplemental brief and psychological  
5 evaluation.)<sup>14</sup> Accordingly, petitioner’s motion for evidentiary hearing is denied.

6 IV. Conclusion

7 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that petitioner’s request for an evidentiary hearing is  
8 denied; and

9 IT IS RECOMMENDED that respondents’ July 1, 2010 motion to dismiss (dkt.  
10 no. 26) be granted.

11 These findings and recommendations are submitted to the United States District  
12 Judge assigned to the case, pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1). Within twenty-  
13 one days after being served with these findings and recommendations, any party may file written  
14 objections with the court and serve a copy on all parties. Such a document should be captioned  
15 “Objections to Magistrate Judge’s Findings and Recommendations.” If petitioner files  
16 objections, he shall also address whether a certificate of appealability should issue and, if so, why  
17 and as to which issues. A certificate of appealability may issue under 28 U.S.C. § 2253 “only if  
18 the applicant has made a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right.” 28 U.S.C.  
19 § 2253(c)(3). Any reply to the objections shall be served and filed within fourteen days after  
20 service of the objections. The parties are advised that failure to file objections within the

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25 <sup>14</sup> A court may take judicial notice of court records. See MGIC Indem. Co. v. Weisman,  
26 803 F.2d 500, 505 (9th Cir. 1986).

1 specified time may waive the right to appeal the District Court's order. Martinez v. Ylst, 951  
2 F.2d 1153 (9th Cir. 1991).

3 DATED: January 21, 2011

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KENDALL J. NEWMAN  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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