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

ZEFERINO ORTIZ VASQUEZ,

Petitioner,

No. CIV S-09-3141 GGH P

vs.

MICHAEL MARTEL, Warden, et al.,

ORDER

Respondents.

\_\_\_\_\_ /

Petitioner, a state prisoner proceeding pro se, has filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254, together with an application to proceed in forma pauperis.

Examination of the in forma pauperis affidavit reveals that petitioner is unable to afford the costs of suit. Accordingly, the request for leave to proceed in forma pauperis will be granted. See 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a).

Since petitioner may be entitled to the requested relief if the claimed violation of constitutional rights is proved, respondents will be served with the petition, but shall not file a response at the present time.

In light of the length of petitioner’s sentence, the court has determined that the interests of justice require appointment of counsel. See 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(a)(2)(B); see also Weygandt v. Look, 718 F.2d 952, 954 (9th Cir. 1983).

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1           Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

2           1. Petitioner's request to proceed in forma pauperis is granted;

3           2. Petitioner's motion for appointment of counsel, filed November 12, 2009  
4 (docket # 3), is granted and the Federal Defender is appointed to represent petitioner;

5           3. The Clerk of the Court is directed to serve a copy of the petition and this order  
6 on Carolyn Wiggin, Assistant Federal Defender.

7           4. Within thirty days of this order, the parties shall file a joint scheduling  
8 statement which addresses the timing and order of the following matters:

9                   a. The number of days petitioner's counsel estimates it will take to file  
10 either:

11                               1. A statement indicating petitioner will stand on the existing  
12 petition, and supplemental memorandum of points and authorities, if any;

13                               2. An amended petition which will proceed on exhausted claims  
14 only; or

15                               3. An amended petition which identifies both exhausted and  
16 unexhausted claims, **demonstrates good cause for having failed to exhaust state court**  
17 **remedies as to any claims,**<sup>1</sup> and any intention to pursue unexhausted claims, after which the  
18 court **may** recommend that the proceedings be held in abeyance while petitioner exhausts any  
19 new claims in state court.

20                               b. Discovery and investigations;

21                               c. Anticipated motions;

22                               d. The need for and timing of an evidentiary hearing;

23                               e. Enumeration and resolution of unexhausted claims; and

24                               f. Possible future amendments to the pleadings.

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<sup>1</sup> Rhines v. Weber, 544 U.S. 269, 125 S. Ct. 1528 (2005).

1 Counsel are reminded of the importance of timely filing a joint scheduling statement. Failure to  
2 do so may result in sanctions.

3 5. The Clerk of the Court shall serve a copy of this order, *the*  
4 *consent/reassignment form contemplated by Appendix A(k) to the Local Rules of this court*  
5 together with a copy of the petition for writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254 on  
6 Michael Patrick Farrell, Senior Assistant Attorney General.

7 DATED: December 8, 2009

8  
9 /s/ Gregory G. Hollows  
10 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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