1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 9 FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 10 11 PRESTON ALONZO HOWELL, No. 2:12x-CV-1901-CMK-P 12 Petitioner, 13 **ORDER** VS. RICKY HILL, 14 15 Respondent. 16 17 Petitioner, a state prisoner proceeding pro se, brings this petition for a writ of 18 habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. 19 Petitioner seeks 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, 20 21 460 (9th Cir. 1996). However, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A authorizes the appointment of counsel at any 22 stage of the case "if the interests of justice so require." See Rule 8(c), Fed. R. Governing § 2254 23 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. 24 25 /// /// 26 1

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Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that petitioner's motion for appointment of counsel (Doc.15) is denied without prejudice to renewal, at the earliest, after an answer to the petition has been filed.

DATED: November 5, 2012

CRAIG M. KELLISON

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE