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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ERIC FRANKLIN SASS,
Petitioner,
v.
JEFFREY A. BEARD,
Respondent.

No. 2:14-cv-1124 KJM AC P

ORDER

Petitioner, a state prisoner proceeding through counsel, has filed an application for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. Petitioner has also filed a separate request for an evidentiary hearing (ECF No. 17), which respondent opposes (ECF No. 18).

In Cullen v. Pinholster, the Supreme Court made clear that in determining whether an evidentiary hearing is warranted under 28 U.S.C. 2254(e)(2), the court must consider the standards for habeas relief under section 2254(d). 563 U.S. 170, 183 (2011) (“[B]ecause the deferential standards prescribed by § 2254 control whether to grant habeas relief, a federal court must take into account those standards in deciding whether an evidentiary hearing is appropriate.”) (quoting Schiro v. Landrigan, 550 U.S. 465, 474 (2007)). In other words, the process of determining whether an evidentiary hearing should be granted necessarily includes an analysis of both sections 2254(d) and 2254(e)(2). See id. at 183-86; see also Landrigan, 550 U.S. at 474 (“In deciding whether to grant an evidentiary hearing, a federal court must consider


1 whether such a hearing could enable an applicant to prove the petition's factual allegations,
2 which, if true, would entitle the applicant to federal habeas relief.").

3 In light of this analytical overlap and the overwhelming demand on the court's docket, the
4 court finds that the most prudent approach is to defer a decision on whether an evidentiary
5 hearing is appropriate until the court conducts a section 2254(d) analysis. See Landrigan, 550
6 U.S. at 473 (decision to grant an evidentiary hearing generally left to the sound discretion of the
7 district court) (citations omitted).

8 Therefore, petitioner's request for an evidentiary hearing is denied without prejudice and
9 the court will address sua sponte whether an evidentiary hearing is warranted when the merits of
10 the petition are considered.

11 Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that petitioner's request for an evidentiary
12 hearing (ECF No. 17) is denied without prejudice.

13 DATED: May 24, 2016

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15 ALLISON CLAIRE
16 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
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