

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

United States District Court
For the Northern District of California

E-Filed 10/28/11

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

JOSE B. ORTIZ,

No. C 05-3067 RS (PR)

Petitioner,

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

v.

M.D. MCDONALD, Warden, and
RICHARD KIRKLAND, Deputy Warden,

Respondents.

INTRODUCTION

This is a federal habeas corpus action filed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254 by a *pro se* state prisoner. The petition was stayed pending exhaustion of state judicial remedies. The action has been reopened and the amended petition is now before the Court for review pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2243 and Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases.

BACKGROUND

According to the petition, in 2000, a San Benito County Superior Court jury convicted petitioner of murder. Consequent to the verdict, petitioner was sentenced to 50 years-to-life in state prison.

No. C 05-3067 RS (PR)
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

1 **DISCUSSION**

2 This Court may entertain a petition for writ of habeas corpus “in behalf of a person in
3 custody pursuant to the judgment of a State court only on the ground that he is in custody in
4 violation of the Constitution or laws or treaties of the United States.” 28 U.S.C. § 2254(a).
5 A district court considering an application for a writ of habeas corpus shall “award the writ
6 or issue an order directing the respondent to show cause why the writ should not be granted,
7 unless it appears from the application that the applicant or person detained is not entitled
8 thereto.” 28 U.S.C. § 2243. Summary dismissal is appropriate only where the allegations in
9 the petition are vague or conclusory, palpably incredible, or patently frivolous or false. *See*
10 *Hendricks v. Vasquez*, 908 F.2d 490, 491 (9th Cir. 1990).

11 As grounds for federal habeas relief, petitioner claims that (1) there was insufficient
12 evidence to support the murder conviction; (2) he was denied a full and fair hearing on his
13 motion to suppress under the Fourth Amendment; (3) the trial court violated his right to due
14 process by making prejudicial comments and “ruling out” some lesser included felonies as
15 being unsupported by the evidence; (4) he was denied due process when the trial court denied
16 his requests for two pinpoint instructions;¹ (5) he was denied due process when the trial court
17 instructed the jury with CALJIC No. 1.22; (6) the prosecutor withheld evidence in violation
18 of *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963); and (7) there was cumulative error. Liberally
19 construed, Claims 1 and 3–7 appear to be cognizable in a federal habeas action. Claim 2,
20 however, will be DISMISSED without leave to amend. Such claims are not generally
21 cognizable on federal habeas review. *Stone v. Powell*, 428 U.S. 465, 481–82, 494 (1976),
22 bars federal habeas review of Fourth Amendment claims unless the state did not provide an
23 opportunity for full and fair litigation of those claims. The existence of a state procedure
24 allowing an opportunity for full and fair litigation of Fourth Amendment claims, rather than a
25 defendant’s actual use of those procedures, bars federal habeas consideration of those claims.

26
27

¹ This is a consolidation of Claims 4 & 6 in the amended petition.

1 *See Gordon v. Duran*, 895 F.2d 610, 613–14 (9th Cir. 1990) (whether or not defendant
2 litigated Fourth Amendment claim in state court is irrelevant if he had opportunity to do so
3 under California law). California state procedure provides an opportunity for full litigation
4 of a Fourth Amendment claim. *See* Cal. Pen. Code § 1538.5.

5 **CONCLUSION**

6 1. The Clerk shall serve by certified mail a copy of this order, the petition and all
7 attachments thereto, on respondents and respondents’ counsel, the Attorney General for the
8 State of California. The Clerk shall also serve a copy of this order on petitioner.

9 2. Respondents shall file with the Court and serve on petitioner, within **ninety (90)**
10 days of the date this order is filed, an answer conforming in all respects to Rule 5 of the
11 Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases, showing cause why a writ of habeas corpus should not
12 be granted based on petitioner’s cognizable claims. Respondents shall file with the answer
13 and serve on petitioner a copy of all portions of the state trial record that previously have
14 been transcribed and that are relevant to a determination of the issues presented by the
15 petition.

16 3. If petitioner wishes to respond to the answer, he shall do so by filing a traverse
17 with the Court and serving it on respondents’ counsel within **thirty (30)** days of the date the
18 answer is filed.

19 4. In lieu of an answer, respondents may file, within **ninety (90)** days of the date this
20 order is filed, a motion to dismiss on procedural grounds, as set forth in the Advisory
21 Committee Notes to Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases. If respondents file
22 such a motion, petitioner shall file with the Court and serve on respondents an opposition or
23 statement of non-opposition within **thirty (30)** days of the date the motion is filed, and
24 respondents shall file with the Court and serve on petitioner a reply within **fifteen (15)** days
25 of the date any opposition is filed.

26 5. Petitioner is reminded that all communications with the Court must be served on
27 respondents by mailing a true copy of the document to respondents’ counsel.

28

1 6. It is petitioner's responsibility to prosecute this case. Petitioner must keep the
2 Court and respondents informed of any change of address and must comply with the Court's
3 orders in a timely fashion. Failure to do so may result in the dismissal of this action for
4 failure to prosecute pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b).

5 7. Upon a showing of good cause, requests for a reasonable extension of time will be
6 granted provided they are filed on or before the deadline they seek to extend.

7 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

8 DATED: October 28, 2011


RICHARD SEEBORG
United States District Judge

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28