

1 it not for inexcusable neglect.")

2 Generally, a second or successive petition challenging the same judgment may not be
3 filed in this court unless the petitioner first obtains from the United States Court of Appeals for
4 the Ninth Circuit an order authorizing this court to consider the petition. *See* 28 U.S.C. §
5 2244(b)(3)(A). However, when a new *pro se* habeas petition is filed before the adjudication of
6 the first petition is complete, the new petition should be construed as a motion to amend the
7 pending first petition rather than as a § 2244(b) successive petition. *Woods v. Carey*, 525 F.3d
8 886, 890 (9th Cir. 2008) (petitioner's second *pro se* habeas petition was not successive under §
9 2244 and should instead be construed as a motion to amend because it was filed while his
10 previous petition was still pending before the district court). The district court then has the
11 discretion to decide whether the motion to amend should be granted. *Woods*, 525 F.3d at 890.

12 *Woods* applies here because the first petition (Case No. C 09-801 MMC) is still pending
13 and has not yet been adjudicated. Any challenge to the 2005 Monterey County Superior Court
14 conviction would have to be asserted, if at all, in Case No. C 09-801 MMC, as that is the first
15 petition that challenges the judgment. The clerk shall file a copy of the petition from this action
16 in Case No. C 09-801 MMC, for consideration therein. Although *Woods* contemplates that the
17 new petition should be construed to be a motion to amend the pending first petition, it is not
18 clear whether that is Amparo's intent – he may have been trying to file a traverse in that action.¹

19 This action is DISMISSED because petitioner has a habeas petition pending that
20 challenges the same conviction he seeks to challenge in this action.

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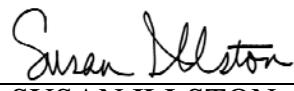
26 ¹The deadline for Amparo to file a traverse in Case No. C 09-801 MMC was August 31, 2011.
27 The habeas petition in the present action was mailed by Amparo on August 28, 2011 and has a proof
28 of service with the handwritten notation, "compleating (sic) the deadlines 8/31/11 traverse documents."
(Docket # 1, last page.)

1 Petitioner's *in forma pauperis* application is GRANTED. (Docket # 2, # 5.) His
2 application for extension of time to file his *in forma pauperis* also is GRANTED; the application
3 is deemed to be timely filed. (Docket # 4.)

4 After placing a copy of the copy of docket # 1 from this action into the case file for Case
5 No. C 09-801 MMC for consideration therein, the clerk shall close the file for this action (i.e.,
6 close Case No. C 11-4436 SI).

7 IT IS SO ORDERED.

8 DATED: December 12, 2011



SUSAN ILLSTON
United States District Judge

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