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

JONATHAN CARDENAS,)	No. C 13-4199 LHK (PR)
)	
Petitioner,)	ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
)	
vs.)	
)	
GARY SWARTHOUT, Warden,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
_____)	

Petitioner, a state prisoner proceeding *pro se*, seeks a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. Petitioner has paid the filing fee. For the reasons that follow, the court orders respondent to show cause why the petition should not be granted.

BACKGROUND

According to the petition, on August 4, 2010, petitioner was sentenced to a term of 16-years to life after being convicted of second degree murder and use of a deadly weapon in Santa Cruz County Superior Court. In 2012, the California Court of Appeal affirmed, and the California Supreme Court denied the petition for review. Petitioner filed the instant federal petition on September 10, 2013.

DISCUSSION

A. Standard of Review

This Court may entertain a petition for a writ of habeas corpus “in behalf of a person in

1 custody pursuant to the judgment of a State court only on the ground that he is in custody in
2 violation of the Constitution or laws or treaties of the United States.” 28 U.S.C. § 2254(a); *Rose*
3 *v. Hodges*, 423 U.S. 19, 21 (1975).

4 A district court shall “award the writ or issue an order directing the respondent to show
5 cause why the writ should not be granted, unless it appears from the application that the
6 applicant or person detained is not entitled thereto.” 28 U.S.C. § 2243. Summary dismissal is
7 appropriate only where the allegations in the petition are vague or conclusory, palpably
8 incredible, or patently frivolous or false. *See Hendricks v. Vasquez*, 908 F.2d 490, 491 (9th Cir.
9 1990) (quoting *Blackledge v. Allison*, 431 U.S. 63, 75-76 (1977)).

10 B. Petitioner’s Claims

11 Petitioner raises the following claims in his petition: (1) the trial court improperly
12 admitted evidence regarding gangs and petitioner’s prior statements about gang culture even
13 though there was no evidence that petitioner’s offense was gang-related; (2) the trial court erred
14 in refusing petitioner’s request to modify CALCRIM Nos. 371 and 372 to instruct the jury that
15 “consciousness of guilt may not be considered in determining the degree of defendant’s guilt”;
16 and (3) the cumulative errors prejudiced petitioner.

17 The court orders respondent to show cause why the petition should not be granted.

18 **CONCLUSION**

19 1. The Clerk shall serve by mail a copy of this order and the petition and all
20 attachments thereto (docket no. 1) upon the respondent and the respondent’s attorney, the
21 Attorney General of the State of California. The Clerk shall also serve a copy of this order on
22 petitioner.

23 2. Respondent shall file with the court and serve on petitioner, within **sixty days** of
24 the date this order is filed, an answer conforming in all respects to Rule 5 of the Rules Governing
25 Section 2254 Cases, showing cause why a writ of habeas corpus should not be granted.

26 Respondent shall file with the answer and serve on petitioner a copy of all portions of the
27 underlying state criminal record that have been transcribed previously and that are relevant to a
28 determination of the issues presented by the petition. If petitioner wishes to respond to the

1 answer, he shall do so by filing a traverse with the court and serving it on respondent within
2 **thirty days** of the date the answer is filed.

3 3. Respondent may file a motion to dismiss on procedural grounds in lieu of an
4 answer, as set forth in the Advisory Committee Notes to Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section
5 2254 Cases within **sixty days** of the date this order is filed. If respondent files such a motion,
6 petitioner shall file with the court and serve on respondent an opposition or statement of non-
7 opposition within **twenty-eight days** of the date the motion is filed, and respondent **shall** file
8 with the court and serve on petitioner a reply within **fourteen days** of the date any opposition is
9 filed.

10 4. It is petitioner's responsibility to prosecute this case. Petitioner is reminded that
11 all communications with the court must be served on respondent by mailing a true copy of the
12 document to respondent's counsel. Petitioner must keep the court and all parties informed of any
13 change of address by filing a separate paper captioned "Notice of Change of Address." He must
14 comply with the court's orders in a timely fashion. Failure to do so may result in the dismissal
15 of this action for failure to prosecute pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b).

16 IT IS SO ORDERED.

17 DATED: 12/3/13



LUCY H. KOH
United States District Judge