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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

RUBEN CHAVARRIA,

Petitioner,

v.

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, et al,

Respondents.

Civil No. 11-0008 IEG (RBB)

ORDER:

- (1) GRANTING APPLICATION TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS and**
- (2) DISMISSING PETITION WITHOUT PREJUDICE**

Petitioner, a state prisoner proceeding pro se, has submitted a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254.

REQUEST TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS

Petitioner has filed a request to proceed in forma pauperis. Petitioner has \$0.00 on account at the California correctional institution in which he is presently confined. Petitioner cannot afford the \$5.00 filing fee. Thus, the Court **GRANTS** Petitioner’s application to proceed in forma pauperis, and allows Petitioner to prosecute the above-referenced action as a poor person without being required to prepay fees or costs and without being required to post security. The Clerk of the Court shall file the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus without prepayment of the filing fee.

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1 **FAILURE TO NAME PROPER RESPONDENT**

2 Review of the Petition reveals that Petitioner has failed to name a proper respondent. On
3 federal habeas, a state prisoner must name the state officer having custody of him as the
4 respondent. Ortiz-Sandoval v. Gomez, 81 F.3d 891, 894 (9th Cir. 1996) (citing Rule 2(a), 28
5 U.S.C. foll. § 2254). Federal courts lack personal jurisdiction when a habeas petition fails to
6 name a proper respondent. See id.

7 The warden is the typical respondent. However, “the rules following section 2254 do not
8 specify the warden.” Id. “[T]he ‘state officer having custody’ may be ‘either the warden of the
9 institution in which the petitioner is incarcerated . . . or the chief officer in charge of state penal
10 institutions.’” Id. (quoting Rule 2(a), 28 U.S.C. foll. § 2254 advisory committee’s note). If “a
11 petitioner is in custody due to the state action he is challenging, ‘[t]he named respondent shall
12 be the state officer who has official custody of the petitioner (for example, the warden of the
13 prison).’” Id. (quoting Rule 2, 28 U.S.C. foll. § 2254 advisory committee’s note).

14 A long standing rule in the Ninth Circuit holds “that a petitioner may not seek [a writ of]
15 habeas corpus against the State under . . . [whose] authority . . . the petitioner is in custody. The
16 actual person who is [the] custodian [of the petitioner] must be the respondent.” Ashley v.
17 Washington, 394 F.2d 125, 126 (9th Cir. 1968). This requirement exists because a writ of
18 habeas corpus acts upon the custodian of the state prisoner, the person who will produce “the
19 body” if directed to do so by the Court. “Both the warden of a California prison and the Director
20 of Corrections for California have the power to produce the prisoner.” Ortiz-Sandoval, 81 F.3d
21 at 895.

22 Here, Petitioner has incorrectly named “Arnold Schwarzenegger” as Respondent.
23 Additionally, Jerry Brown, the former Attorney General of the State of California, is not a proper
24 respondent in this action. Rule 2 of the Rules following § 2254 provides that the state officer
25 having custody of the petitioner shall be named as respondent. Rule 2(a), 28 U.S.C. foll. § 2254.
26 However, “if the applicant is not presently in custody pursuant to a state judgement against
27 which he seeks relief but may be subject to such custody in the future,” then “the officer having
28 present custody of the applicant as well as the attorney general of the state in which the judgment

1 which he seeks to attack was entered shall each be named as respondents.” Rule 2 (b), 28 U.S.C.
2 foll. § 2254. Here, there is no basis for Petitioner to have named the Attorney General as a
3 respondent in this action.

4 In order for this Court to entertain the Petition filed in this action, Petitioner must name
5 the warden in charge of the state correctional facility in which Petitioner is presently confined
6 or the Director of the California Department of Corrections. Brittingham v. United States, 982
7 F.2d 378, 379 (9th Cir. 1992) (per curiam).

8 **FAILURE TO ALLEGE EXHAUSTION OF STATE JUDICIAL REMEDIES**

9 Further, habeas petitioners who wish to challenge either their state court conviction or the
10 length of their confinement in state prison, must first exhaust state judicial remedies. 28 U.S.C.
11 § 2254(b), (c); Granberry v. Greer, 481 U.S. 129, 133-34 (1987). To exhaust state judicial
12 remedies, a California state prisoner must present the California Supreme Court with a fair
13 opportunity to rule on the merits of every issue raised in his or her federal habeas petition. 28
14 U.S.C. § 2254(b), (c); Granberry, 481 U.S. at 133-34. Moreover, to properly exhaust state court
15 remedies a petitioner must allege, in state court, how one or more of his or her federal rights
16 have been violated. The Supreme Court in Duncan v. Henry, 513 U.S. 364 (1995) reasoned:
17 “If state courts are to be given the opportunity to correct alleged violations of prisoners’ federal
18 rights, they must surely be alerted to the fact that the prisoners are asserting claims under the
19 United States Constitution.” Id. at 365-66 (emphasis added). For example, “[i]f a habeas
20 petitioner wishes to claim that an evidentiary ruling at a state court trial denied him [or her] the
21 due process of law guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment, he [or she] must say so, not only
22 in federal court, but in state court.” Id. at 366 (emphasis added).

23 Nowhere on the Petition does Petitioner allege that he raised his claim in the California
24 Supreme Court. In fact, he specifically indicates he did not seek review in the California
25 Supreme Court. (See Pet. at 6.) If Petitioner has raised his claim in the California Supreme
26 Court he must so specify. “The burden of proving that a claim has been exhausted lies with the
27 petitioner.” Matthews v. Evatt, 105 F.3d 907, 911 (4th Cir. 1997); see Breard v. Pruett, 134 F.3d
28 615, 619 (4th Cir. 1998); Lambert v. Blackwell, 134 F.3d 506, 513 (3d Cir. 1997); Oyler v.

1 Allenbrand, 23 F.3d 292, 300 (10th Cir. 1994); Rust v. Zent, 17 F.3d 155, 160 (6th Cir. 1994).

2 Further, the Court cautions Petitioner that under the Antiterrorism and Effective Death
3 Penalty Act of 1996 (AEDPA) a one-year period of limitation shall apply to a petition for a writ
4 of habeas corpus by a person in custody pursuant to the judgment of a State court. The limitation
5 period shall run from the latest of:

6 (A) the date on which the judgment became final by the
7 conclusion of direct review or the expiration of the time for seeking
such review;

8 (B) the date on which the impediment to filing an application
9 created by State action in violation of the Constitution or laws of the
United States is removed, if the applicant was prevented from filing
10 by such State action;

11 (C) the date on which the constitutional right asserted was
initially recognized by the Supreme Court, if the right has been
12 newly recognized by the Supreme Court and made retroactively
applicable to cases on collateral review; or

13 (D) the date on which the factual predicate of the claim or
14 claims presented could have been discovered through the exercise
of due diligence.

15 28 U.S.C.A. § 2244(d)(1)(A)-(D) (West Supp. 2002).

16 The statute of limitations does not run while a properly filed state habeas corpus petition
17 is pending. 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d)(2); see Nino v. Galaza, 183 F.3d 1003, 1006 (9th Cir. 1999).
18 But see Artuz v. Bennett, 531 U.S. 4, 8 (2000) (holding that “an application is ‘properly filed’
19 when its delivery and acceptance [by the appropriate court officer for placement into the record]
20 are in compliance with the applicable laws and rules governing filings.”). However, absent some
21 other basis for tolling, the statute of limitations does run while a federal habeas petition is
22 pending. Duncan v. Walker, 533 U.S. 167, 181-82 (2001).

23 Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases provides for summary dismissal of a
24 habeas petition “[i]f it plainly appears from the face of the petition and any exhibits annexed to
25 it that the petitioner is not entitled to relief in the district court . . .” Rule 4, 28 U.S.C. foll.
26 § 2254. Here, it appears plain from the Petition that Petitioner is not presently entitled to federal
27 habeas relief because he has not alleged exhaustion of state court remedies.

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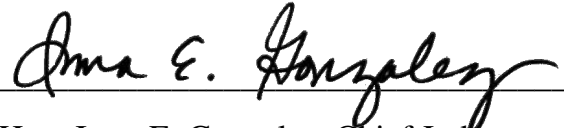
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CONCLUSION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Court **GRANTS** Petitioner’s request to proceed in forma pauperis, and **DISMISSES** the Petition without prejudice due to Petitioner’s failure to name a proper respondent and allege exhaustion as to state judicial remedies. To have this case reopened, Petitioner must file a First Amended Petition no later than **March 15, 2011** in conformance with this Order. *The Clerk of Court is directed to send Petitioner a blank First Amended Petition along with a copy of this Order.*

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: 1/7/11



Hon. Irma E. Gonzalez, Chief Judge
United States District Court