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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

Tiyacte Harris,
Petitioner,
v.
Natalie Wood, et al.,
Respondents.

Case No.: 2:16-cv-02891-APG-DJA
**Order Granting Motion to Reopen and
Motion for Leave to File Fourth Amended
Petition**
[ECF No. 46, 47]

This is a stayed habeas corpus action under 28 U.S.C. § 2254. Petitioner has filed a motion to reopen¹ and a motion for leave to file fourth amended petition.² Respondents have not responded to either motion. I find that good cause exists to grant both motions.

IT THEREFORE IS ORDERED that petitioner's motion to reopen (ECF No. 46) is **GRANTED**. The Clerk of the Court is directed to reopen this action and to lift the stay.

IT FURTHER IS ORDERED that petitioner's motion for leave to file fourth amended petition (ECF No. 47) is **GRANTED**. Petitioner must file the fourth amended petition within 7 days of the date of entry of this order.

IT FURTHER IS ORDERED that respondents must file a response to the fourth amended petition, including potentially by motion to dismiss, within 60 days of service of the fourth amended petition and that petitioner may file a reply within 30 days of service of an answer. The response and reply time to any motion filed by either party, including a motion filed in lieu of a pleading, will be governed instead by Local Rule LR 7-2(b).


¹ ECF No. 46.

² ECF No. 47.

1 IT FURTHER IS ORDERED that any procedural defenses raised by respondents to the
2 petition must be raised together in a single consolidated motion to dismiss. In other words, the
3 court does not wish to address any procedural defenses raised herein either in serial fashion in
4 multiple successive motions to dismiss or embedded in the answer. Procedural defenses omitted
5 from such motion to dismiss will be subject to potential waiver. Respondents must not file a
6 response in this case that consolidates their procedural defenses, if any, with their response on
7 the merits, except pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254(b)(2) as to any unexhausted claims clearly
8 lacking merit. If respondents do seek dismissal of unexhausted claims under § 2254(b)(2): (a)
9 they must do so within the single motion to dismiss not in the answer; and (b) they must
10 specifically direct their argument to the standard for dismissal under § 2254(b)(2) set forth in
11 *Cassett v. Stewart*, 406 F.3d 614, 623-24 (9th Cir. 2005). In short, no procedural defenses,
12 including exhaustion, may be included with the merits in an answer. All procedural defenses,
13 including exhaustion, instead must be raised by motion to dismiss.

14 IT FURTHER IS ORDERED that, in any answer filed on the merits, respondents must
15 specifically cite to and address the applicable state court written decision and state court record
16 materials, if any, regarding each claim within the response as to that claim.

17 DATED: April 5, 2022

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21 ANDREW P. GORDON
22 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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