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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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ROGER RANDOLPH,

Petitioner,

v.

RENEE BAKER, et al.,

Respondents.

Case No. 2:18-cv-00449-RFB-VCF

ORDER

Petitioner Roger Randolph has submitted a *pro se* petition for writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254 and has now submitted a completed application to proceed *in forma pauperis* (ECF No. 6), which shall be granted. The court has reviewed the petition pursuant to Habeas Rule 4, and it shall be docketed and served on respondents.

A petition for federal habeas corpus should include all claims for relief of which petitioner is aware. If petitioner fails to include such a claim in his petition, he may be forever barred from seeking federal habeas relief upon that claim. See 28 U.S.C. §2254(b) (successive petitions). If petitioner is aware of any claim not included in his petition, he should notify the court of that as soon as possible, perhaps by means of a motion to amend his petition to add the claim.

1           Petitioner has also submitted a motion for appointment of counsel (ECF No. 2).  
2 There is no constitutional right to appointed counsel for a federal habeas corpus  
3 proceeding. *Pennsylvania v. Finley*, 481 U.S. 551, 555 (1987); *Bonin v. Vasquez*, 999  
4 F.2d 425, 428 (9th Cir.1993). The decision to appoint counsel is generally discretionary.  
5 *Chaney v. Lewis*, 801 F.2d 1191, 1196 (9th Cir.1986), cert. denied, 481 U.S. 1023 (1987);  
6 *Bashor v. Risley*, 730 F.2d 1228, 1234 (9th Cir.), cert. denied, 469 U.S. 838 (1984).  
7 However, counsel must be appointed if the complexities of the case are such that denial  
8 of counsel would amount to a denial of due process, and where the petitioner is a person  
9 of such limited education as to be incapable of fairly presenting her claims. *See Chaney*,  
10 801 F.2d at 1196; *see also Hawkins v. Bennett*, 423 F.2d 948 (8th Cir.1970). Here, it is  
11 not clear that Randolph is capable of fairly presenting his claims arising from his first-  
12 degree murder conviction pursuant to a jury trial. The court notes that the state court  
13 conducted a hearing pursuant to *Atkins v. Virginia*, 536 U.S. 304 (2002), regarding  
14 whether Randolph had an IQ low enough to make him ineligible for the death penalty.  
15 Therefore, his motion for counsel shall be granted.

16           **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that petitioner’s application to proceed *in forma*  
17 *pauperis* (ECF No. 6) is **GRANTED**.

18           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Clerk **shall file and electronically SERVE**  
19 the petition (ECF No. 1-1) on the respondents.

20           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Clerk shall add Adam Paul Laxalt, Nevada  
21 Attorney General, as counsel for respondents.

22           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that petitioner’s motion for appointment of counsel  
23 (ECF No. 2) is **GRANTED**.

24           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Federal Public Defender for the District of  
25 Nevada (FPD) is appointed to represent petitioner.

26           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Clerk shall **ELECTRONICALLY SERVE** the  
27 FPD a copy of this order, together with a copy of the petition for writ of habeas corpus.  
28 The FPD shall have thirty (30) days from the date of entry of this order to file a notice of

1 appearance or to indicate to the court its inability to represent petitioner in these  
2 proceedings.

3 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that after counsel has appeared for petitioner in this  
4 case, the court will issue a scheduling order, which will, among other things, set a deadline  
5 for the filing of an amended petition.

6 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that petitioner's *ex parte* motion for COA arguments  
7 (ECF No. 4) is **DENIED**.

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DATED: 1 June 2018.



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RICHARD F. BOULWARE, II  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE