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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

PAUL L. BROWNING,)
)
Petitioner,)
)
vs.)
)
RENEE BAKER, *et al.*,)
)
Respondents.)
)
_____ /

3:05-cv-0087-RCJ-WGC

Introduction

In this capital habeas corpus action, brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 by Paul L. Browning, a Nevada prisoner sentenced to death, there is, pending, a motion by Browning requesting oral argument (ECF No. 160). In this order, the court denies that motion.

In addition, in this order, the court identifies claims made by Browning in his fifth amended habeas petition that have not been exhausted in state court, and the court orders Browning to make an election regarding those claims.

Background Facts and Procedural History

In its June 10, 2004, decision in Browning’s case, the Nevada Supreme Court described, as follows, the factual background of the case:

1 On November 8, 1985, Hugo Elsen was stabbed to death during a robbery of
2 his jewelry store in Las Vegas. His wife, Josy Elsen, was in the back of the store
3 when he was attacked. Hearing noises, she went into the showroom and saw a black
4 man wearing a blue cap squatting over her husband holding a knife. She fled out the
5 back door to the neighboring store and asked the employees there to call the police.
6 She and a neighboring employee, Debra Coe, then returned to the jewelry store where
7 Coe placed a pillow under Elsen's head and covered him with a blanket. Two to four
8 minutes later help arrived. Elsen soon died, after giving a very brief description of the
9 perpetrator as a black man wearing a blue cap with loose curled wet hair. Debra Coe
10 also described a man she had seen leaving the vicinity: he was wearing a blue cap,
11 blue jacket, Levi's, and tennis shoes; was about 27 years old and about six-feet tall;
12 and had hair a little longer than the cap he was wearing and a mustache. Another
13 witness, Charles Woods, identified a person he saw leaving the vicinity as a black
14 man wearing a dark or blue cap and dark trousers, about six-feet tall, and weighing
15 about 180 pounds.

16 Shortly after the crimes, Randy Wolfe approached police and told them that a
17 man was in Wolfe's nearby hotel room with a large amount of jewelry. The police
18 went to the room and found Browning with the jewelry. Browning was arrested and
19 taken to Coe and Woods for a showup identification. They identified Browning as
20 the man they saw leaving the vicinity of the crimes.

21 At trial, Vanessa Wolfe, Randy Wolfe's wife, testified for the State to the
22 following. She returned to her hotel room on the day of the crimes and found
23 Browning taking off his clothes. He had a coat, which was either on the floor or on
24 the bed. On the bed was a lot of jewelry with tags, which she helped cut off.
25 Browning asked Vanessa to help him get rid of some of the jewelry and said he
26 thought he had just killed somebody. She helped Browning by throwing the tags and
his hat in a nearby dumpster. Browning gave her a knife to dispose of. Instead, she
put the knife in a pizza box in a closet under the stairs. The officers assigned to
Browning's case testified that they retrieved all of this evidence from the places that
Vanessa described. Randy Wolfe also testified that when he went into his hotel room,
Browning was sitting on the bed and said that he just robbed a jewelry store and
thought that he had killed a man. Investigators found Browning's fingerprints in the
jewelry store.

 Browning was convicted, pursuant to a jury trial, of first-degree murder with
the use of a deadly weapon, robbery with the use of a deadly weapon, burglary, and
escape. At the penalty hearing, the State presented detailed evidence of his prior
felonies for robbery with the use of a knife. Browning's mother testified as a
mitigating witness. She stated that Browning attended private school as a child, was a
very good student and president of the student council, and was very athletically
inclined, winning medals in cross-country. She had marital problems, and she and
Browning moved to Washington, D.C., where he worked as a doorman for the United
States Congress and took paralegal classes at the Library of Congress. After
Browning left high school, she had not had much contact with him, but she knew that
he was very remorseful for the crimes. Browning spoke in allocution and stated that
his involvement with drugs was the reason he was implicated in the crimes. He
apologized for the pain that the Elsen and Browning families had suffered. He stated
that he did not want to die and that he was innocent.

1 The jury found five aggravating circumstances: the murder was committed
2 while Browning was engaged in a burglary; the murder was committed while he was
3 engaged in a robbery; he was previously convicted of a felony involving the use or
4 threat of violence; the murder was committed while he was under a sentence of
imprisonment; and the murder involved depravity of mind. The jury did not find any
mitigating circumstances and returned a sentence of death.

5 *Browning v. State*, 120 Nev. 347, 352-53, 91 P.3d 39, 43-44 (2004).

6 Browning appealed, and, on June 24, 1988, the Nevada Supreme Court affirmed. *Browning*
7 *v. State*, 104 Nev. 269, 757 P.2d 351 (1988) (a copy of the opinion is in the record at Respondents’
8 Exhibit 91 (ECF No. 59-65)).¹ The Nevada Supreme Court denied Browning’s petition for rehearing
9 on August 16, 1988. Respondents’ Exhibit 97 (ECF No. 59-67).

10 On May 17, 1989, Browning filed, in the state district court, a petition for post-conviction
11 relief and for evidentiary hearing. Respondents’ Exhibit 105 (ECF Nos. 59-68, 59-69, 59-70).
12 An evidentiary hearing was held. Respondents’ Exhibits 161, 179-83 (ECF Nos. 59-102, 59-103,
13 59-128 through 59-150). Browning’s petition was denied. Respondents’ Exhibits 208, 230 (ECF
14 Nos. 59-167, pp. 18-19, and 59-171).

15 Browning appealed, and, on June 10, 2004, the Nevada Supreme Court affirmed in part,
16 vacated in part, and remanded the case to the state district court for further proceedings. *Browning v.*
17 *State*, 120 Nev. 347, 91 P.3d 39 (2004) (a copy of the opinion in the record at Respondents’ Exhibit
18 264 (ECF No. 59-184)). The court ruled that Browning’s appellate counsel had been ineffective for
19 failing to challenge the “depravity of mind” aggravating circumstance, and vacated Browning’s death
20 sentence and remanded the case for a new penalty hearing. *Id.*

21 On the remand, Browning’s new penalty hearing was conducted before a jury from
22 April 10 through 14, 2006. Respondents’ Exhibits 335-45 (ECF Nos. 59-159 - 59-204). The jury
23 returned a verdict imposing the sentence of death, and the judgment was entered on August 22, 2006.
24 Respondents’ Exhibit 343 (ECF No. 59-201); Respondents’ Exhibit 360 (ECF No. 59-205).

25
26 ¹ The exhibits referred to in this order as “Respondents’ Exhibits” were filed by respondents,
and are located in the record at ECF Nos. 59 and 119.

1 Browning appealed. On July 24, 2008, the Nevada Supreme Court affirmed. *Browning v.*
2 *State*, 124 Nev. 517, 188 P.3d 60 (2008) (a copy of the opinion is in the record at Respondents'
3 Exhibit 384 (ECF No. 119-3)). The Nevada Supreme Court denied Browning's petition for
4 rehearing on October 22, 2008. Respondents' Exhibit 386 (ECF No. 119-3). On December 26,
5 2008, the Nevada Supreme Court denied a motion by Browning to recall the remittitur.
6 Respondents' Exhibit 389 (ECF No. 119-3).

7 On February 10, 2005, Browning initiated this federal habeas corpus action by filing a pro se
8 habeas petition (ECF No. 1). The court appointed the Federal Public Defender (FPD) to represent
9 Browning, and counsel appeared on his behalf on August 18, 2005 (ECF Nos. 7, 10, 11). As
10 Browning's re-sentencing was then pending, on February 9, 2007, the court entered an order that this
11 action would proceed with regard to guilt phase issues only (ECF No. 25). Browning amended his
12 habeas petition on August 26, 2008 (ECF No. 48), and again on November 5, 2008 (ECF No. 54).
13 On July 7, 2009, after Browning's re-imposed death sentence was affirmed on appeal, the court
14 granted Browning leave to file a third amended petition, containing all known claims for relief,
15 including any related to the newly-imposed death sentence (ECF No. 78). Browning filed his third
16 amended petition on October 19, 2009 (ECF No. 83).

17 On February 10, 2010, the FPD filed a motion to withdraw from their representation of
18 Browning (ECF No. 90). That motion was granted, and the FPD withdrew on March 22, 2010
19 (ECF No. 96). On April 7, 2011, the court appointed new counsel for Browning (ECF Nos. 102,
20 103, 104). On October 14, 2011, Browning filed a fourth amended petition (ECF No. 111), and on
21 November 28, 2011, Browning filed a fifth amended petition (ECF No. 115).

22 On March 7, 2012, respondents filed an answer to the fifth amended petition (ECF No. 122).
23 On August 24, 2012, Browning filed a reply (ECF No. 131). On November 26, 2012, respondents
24 filed a response to the reply (ECF No. 150).

25 When Browning filed his reply, on August 24, 2012, he also filed four motions: a motion for
26 summary judgment (ECF No. 132), a motion to expand the record (ECF No. 133), a motion for leave

1 to conduct discovery (ECF No. 134), and a motion for evidentiary hearing (ECF No. 135). On
2 September 19, 2012, respondents filed a motion to strike the motion for summary judgment
3 (ECF No. 140). On December 31, 2012, Browning filed a motion to strike, or, alternatively, for
4 evidentiary hearing (ECF No. 156). In an order entered on January 24, 2013, the court denied each
5 of those motions (ECF No. 159).

6 On January 30, 2013, Browning filed his “Motion and Memorandum for Oral Argument on
7 Petitioner’s Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254 by a
8 Person in State Custody” (ECF No. 160) (“Motion for Oral Argument”). Respondents filed an
9 opposition to that motion on February 19, 2013 (ECF No. 161).

10 Motion for Oral Argument

11 The court will deny Browning’s motion for oral argument.

12 There is on file an extraordinary amount of written briefing regarding the merits of
13 Browning’s claims. The court has the benefit of Browning’s 109-page fifth amended habeas petition
14 (ECF No. 115), respondents’ 90-page answer (ECF No. 122), Browning’s 194-page reply (ECF No.
15 131), and respondents’ 59-page response to reply (ECF No. 150). In addition, in the order entered on
16 January 24, 2013 (ECF No. 159), the court stated that it will consider, with respect to the merits of
17 Browning’s claims, the briefing of the parties concerning Browning’s motion for summary judgment
18 (ECF Nos. 132, 139, 145), as well as the briefing of the parties concerning Browning’s motion to
19 strike, or, alternatively, for evidentiary hearing (ECF Nos. 156, 158). The court finds, generally, that
20 the parties’ positions are set forth completely and clearly in the written briefing, and the court does
21 not, at this point, expect that oral argument will be necessary.

22 If, after the matter of Browning’s unexhausted claims is resolved (*see* discussion below), and
23 upon closer consideration of the briefing, the court determines that oral argument will be helpful, the
24 court will notify the parties of such and will schedule oral argument.

25

26

1 Exhaustion

2 In their answer to Browning’s fifth amended habeas petition, respondents take the position
3 that several of Browning’s claims are unexhausted.

4 A federal court may not grant habeas corpus relief on a claim not exhausted in state court. 28
5 U.S.C. § 2254(b). The exhaustion doctrine is based on the policy of federal-state comity, and is
6 intended to allow state courts the initial opportunity to correct constitutional deprivations. *See*
7 *Picard v. Conner*, 404 U.S. 270, 275 (1971). To exhaust a claim, a petitioner must fairly present the
8 claim to the highest state court, and must give that court the opportunity to address and resolve it.
9 *See Duncan v. Henry*, 513 U.S. 364, 365 (1995) (*per curiam*); *Keeney v. Tamayo-Reyes*, 504 U.S. 1,
10 10 (1992).

11 The court has carefully examined the record to determine the status of each of Browning’s
12 claims, vis-a-vis the exhaustion of each claim in state court. The court sets forth its findings in this
13 regard below, and directs Browning to make an election with respect to his unexhausted claims.

14 Claim 1

15 In Claim 1, Browning claims that he was denied effective assistance of counsel before trial in
16 violation of his rights under the Sixth, Eighth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States
17 Constitution, because his counsel “failed to do the investigation necessary to confront the
18 prosecution’s case or to prepare and present the defense case at trial.” *See* Fifth Amended Petition
19 for Writ of Habeas Corpus (ECF No. 115), p. 7. Claim 1 includes several distinct subclaims, each
20 based upon different factual assertions regarding the alleged shortcomings of counsel’s pretrial
21 investigation.

22 To fairly present a claim in state court, in order to satisfy the exhaustion requirement, the
23 petitioner must describe the operative facts and federal legal theory on which the claim is based, so
24 that the state courts have a fair opportunity to apply controlling legal principles to the facts bearing
25 upon the claim. *Anderson v. Harless*, 459 U.S. 4, 6 (1982); *see also Rose v. Palmateer*, 395 F.3d
26 1108, 1111 (9th Cir. 2005) (“In addition to requiring specificity in pleading the federal nature of a

1 claim, we also require a petitioner to articulate the substance of an alleged violation with some
2 particularity.”)

3 A petitioner’s assertion, in state court, of a claim of ineffective assistance of counsel based on
4 one set of facts does not exhaust other claims of ineffective assistance of counsel based on different
5 facts not presented to the state courts. *Moormann v. Schriro*, 426 F.3d 1044, 1056-57
6 (9th Cir. 2005), *cert. denied*, 548 U.S. 927 (2006) (new allegations of ineffective assistance of
7 counsel not previously raised before the state court ruled unexhausted); *Date v. Schriro*, 619
8 F.Supp.2d 736, 788 (D.Ariz. 2008).

9 In Claim 1, Browning first makes allegations regarding the pretrial investigation that his
10 counsel did do, and the amount of time that it took counsel to do that work, essentially asserting, in a
11 general manner, that counsel was ineffective because he did not perform adequate investigation.
12 Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 7-9, ¶¶ 5.1- 5.6. Browning made such an
13 assertion before the Nevada Supreme Court, on his appeal from the denial of his state-court habeas
14 petition; this general claim of ineffective investigation is exhausted. *See, e.g.*, Appellant’s Opening
15 Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 39-41.

16 Browning next claims, in paragraphs 5.7 through 5.7.3 of Claim 1, that his counsel was
17 ineffective for not adequately investigating bloody shoe prints found at the scene of the murder.
18 Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 9-10, ¶¶ 5.7- 5.7.3. This claim has been
19 exhausted in state court. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-
20 173, 59-174, 59-175), p. 43.

21 Browning claims, in paragraphs 5.8 through 5.8.2 of Claim 1, that his counsel was ineffective
22 for failing to adequately investigate blood found on a jacket that allegedly belonged to Browning.
23 Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 10-11, ¶¶ 5.8- 5.8.2. Respondents argue that
24 this claim is unexhausted. *See* Answer (ECF No. 122), pp. 40-42. Browning did, however, make
25 such a claim to the Nevada Supreme Court. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit
26 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), p. 23, n.11; Appellant’s Reply Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit

1 251 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-181), pp. 15-16. This claim has, therefore, been exhausted in state
2 court.

3 Next, in paragraphs 5.9 through 5.9.7 of Claim 1, Browning claims that his counsel was
4 ineffective for not sufficiently investigating Randall and Vanessa Wolfe, two witnesses for the
5 prosecution. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 11-13, ¶¶ 5.9- 5.9.7. This
6 claim has been exhausted in state court. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232
7 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 43, 47-48.

8 In paragraphs 5.10 through 5.10.4 of Claim 1, Browning claims that his counsel was
9 ineffective for not sufficiently doing investigation that would have prepared him to challenge the
10 in-court identification of Browning by the murder victim’s wife, Josy Elsen. Fifth Amended Petition
11 for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 13-15, ¶¶ 5.10-5.10.4. Specifically, Browning asserts in this part of
12 Claim 1 that his counsel failed to interview Josy Elsen and failed to investigate her ability to view
13 the murderer. *Id.* This claim has been exhausted in state court. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief,
14 Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 43, 45-46.

15 Next, in paragraphs 5.11 through 5.11.3 of Claim 1, Browning claims that his counsel was
16 ineffective for failing to conduct a pretrial interview of witness Debra Coe, and for failing to
17 investigate the circumstances of her observations. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas
18 Corpus, pp. 15-16, ¶¶ 5.11-5.11.3. Respondents argue that this claim is unexhausted. *See* Answer,
19 pp. 46-47. In response, in his reply, Browning acknowledges that counsel did, in fact, interview
20 Debra Coe, and Browning therefore abandons the claim that counsel was ineffective for failing
21 to conduct such interview. Reply (ECF No. 131), p. 34, lines 5-10. This leaves, in this part of Claim
22 1, the claim that counsel was ineffective for failing to investigate the circumstances of
23 Debra Coe’s observations. Before the Nevada Supreme Court, Browning made a closely related
24 claim: that counsel was ineffective for failing to properly cross-examine and impeach Debra Coe.
25 *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175),
26 pp. 48-49. The court finds that the claim regarding the alleged insufficient investigation of the

1 circumstances of Debra Coe's observations is closely enough related to the claim made in state court
2 that this claim is exhausted.

3 In paragraphs 5.12 through 5.12.4 of Claim 1, Browning claims that his counsel was
4 ineffective for failing to conduct pretrial investigation regarding the knife that allegedly was used
5 by Browning to kill Hugo Elsen. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 16-18,
6 ¶¶ 5.12-5.12.4. Respondents argue that this claim is unexhausted. *See* Answer, pp. 47-48. In
7 response, Browning argues:

8 Respondent says this part of this claim has not been exhausted but it has. It is
9 another consequence of the lack of investigation, and the same points were raised in
the state postconviction briefs [Dkt. 59, Exh. 232 at 24, 33].

10 Reply (ECF No. 131), p. 36, lines 19-22. However, Browning's citation to pages 24 and 33 of his
11 opening brief before the Nevada Supreme Court is perplexing. Those pages are not in the part of the
12 brief dealing with alleged ineffective assistance of counsel, but rather are in the part of the brief
13 dealing with alleged prosecutorial misconduct. Moreover, there is no assertion on pages 24 and 33
14 of that brief that counsel was ineffective for failing to adequately investigate the knife; in fact, there
15 is no mention whatsoever of the knife on those pages of the opening brief. *See* Appellant's Opening
16 Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 24, 33. The court finds that
17 the claim that Browning's counsel failed to conduct sufficient investigation of the knife was not
18 presented to the Nevada Supreme Court and is unexhausted. *See* Appellant's Opening Brief,
19 Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175); Appellant's Reply Brief,
20 Respondents' Exhibit 251 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-181).

21 In paragraphs 5.13 through 5.13.4 of Claim 1, Browning claims that counsel was ineffective
22 for failing to interview Officer Branon before trial, regarding Hugo Elsen's description of the
23 murderer. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 18-19, ¶¶ 5.13-5.13.4. This claim
24 has been exhausted in state court. *See* Appellant's Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF
25 No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 43-45.

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1 In paragraphs 5.14 through 5.14.5 of Claim 1, Browning claims that counsel was ineffective
2 for failing to conduct investigation regarding certain aspects of Browning's alleged connection to the
3 crime scene. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 19-20, ¶¶ 5.14-5.14.5.

4 Specifically, in this part of Claim 1, Browning alleges:

- 5 - "The lack of investigation prevented Mr. Pike [Browning's trial counsel] from
6 knowing, and the jury from hearing, that the police examined Mr. Browning's
7 shoes and his body for cuts, scrapes or any other injuries that might be
8 consistent with the broken glass and/or blood; and nothing was found."
- 9 - The lack of investigation prevented Mr. Pike from knowing, and the jury from
10 learning, that the Las Vegas Police Department specifically requested the
11 Las Vegas Crime Lab to test Mr. Browning's clothes, with no results tying
12 Mr. Browning to the crime scene."
- 13 - "The lack of investigation prevented Mr. Pike from knowing, and the jury
14 from learning, that not a single state witness observed any blood on
15 Mr. Browning."
- 16 - "The lack of investigation further prevented Mr. Pike from knowing, and the
17 jury from learning, that no one observed Mr. Browning carrying anything in
18 his hands, such as jewelry or the three foot-long jewelry trays."

19 *Id.*, ¶¶ 5.14.1-5.14.4. Respondents argue that this claim is not exhausted. *See Answer*, pp. 49-51.

20 A review of the briefing presented to the Nevada Supreme Court reveals that only a very limited
21 portion of these claims is exhausted, that being the claims that counsel was ineffective for failing to
22 do investigation to discover that Debra Coe did not see blood on Browning and did not see him
23 carrying anything in his hands, such as jewelry or the three foot-long jewelry trays. *See Appellant's*
24 *Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175)*, p. 49 ("Although
25 counsel cross-examined Coe regarding the fact that she was not positive about her earlier
26 identification of Mr. Browning, she was never asked whether she observed any blood on the man, or
whether he was carrying any jewelry cases."). Beyond that, however, the remainder of the claims in
paragraphs 5.14 through 5.14.5 are unexhausted. Browning did not assert before the Nevada
Supreme Court that his counsel was ineffective for failing to do investigation to discover "that the
police examined Mr. Browning's shoes and his body for cuts, scrapes or any other injuries that might
be consistent with the broken glass and/or blood; and nothing was found," for failing to

1 do investigation to discover “that the Las Vegas Police Department specifically requested the
2 Las Vegas Crime Lab to test Mr. Browning’s clothes, with no results tying Mr. Browning to the
3 crime scene,” or for failing to do investigation to discover that witnesses -- other than Debra Coe --
4 did not observe blood on Browning and did not observe him carrying anything in his hands, such as
5 jewelry or the three foot-long jewelry trays. Those claims, in paragraphs 5.14 through 5.14.5 of
6 Claim 1, are unexhausted. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-
7 173, 59-174, 59-175); Appellant’s Reply Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 251 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-
8 181).

9 In paragraph 5.15 of Claim 1, Browning claims that his trial counsel was ineffective for
10 failing to ensure the presence of Marsha Gaylord as a witness at trial or for failing to preserve her
11 testimony for use at trial. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 20-21, ¶ 5.15.
12 Respondents argue that this claim is unexhausted. *See* Answer, pp. 51-52. However, as Browning
13 points out in his reply (Reply, pp. 43-44), this claim was raised before the Nevada Supreme Court.
14 *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), p. 57,
15 lines 4-5, and n.30. This claim has been exhausted in state court.

16 In paragraphs 5.16 through 5.16.4, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for not,
17 before trial, interviewing Randall and Vanessa Wolfe, Thomas Stamps, and Mike Hines, regarding
18 the alleged sale of the stolen jewelry at a gold exchange. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas
19 Corpus, p. 21, ¶¶ 5.16-5.16.4. Respondents argue that this claim is unexhausted. *See* Answer, pp.
20 52-54. Browning did, though, raise this claim before the Nevada Supreme Court, with respect to
21 Randall and Vanessa Wolfe, and Thomas Stamps. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’
22 Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 42-43 n.22, and pp. 47-48. Browning did not,
23 however, raise this claim before the Nevada Supreme Court with respect to Mike Hines. *See*
24 Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175);
25 Appellant’s Reply Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 251 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-181). The claim that
26

1 counsel was ineffective for failing to locate and interview Mike Hines regarding the sale of the stolen
2 jewelry is unexhausted in state court.

3 In paragraphs 5.17 through 5.18.3, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for
4 failing to conduct a pretrial interview of Kathy Adkins, an identification specialist with the
5 Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, and a witness for the prosecution at Browning's trial,
6 and for failing to conduct pretrial investigation to discover the existence of a sketch of the Wolfes'
7 motel room showing the location of each item recovered there. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of
8 Habeas Corpus, pp. 21-22, ¶¶ 5.17-5.17.1. Respondents argue that this claim is unexhausted.
9 See Answer, pp. 52-54. This claim was not presented to the Nevada Supreme Court, and is
10 unexhausted. See Appellant's Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174,
11 59-175); Appellant's Reply Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 251 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-181).

12 In paragraph 5.19, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for failing to investigate
13 the conditions at the police station that he alleges provided a valid defense to the escape charge.
14 Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 23, ¶ 5.19. Browning raised this claim before
15 the Nevada Supreme Court. See Appellant's Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-
16 173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 59-60. This claim has been exhausted in state court.

17 Claim 2

18 In Claim 2 of his fifth amended habeas petition, Browning claims:

19 The prosecution improperly sought, and the trial court improperly granted, a
20 continuance which caused the loss of Mr. Browning's primary defense witness,
21 Ms. Marsha Gaylord. The continuance was granted in violation of the procedures and
22 intended protections dictated by the holdings in *Hill v. Sheriff*, 85 Nev. 234, 452 P.2d
23 918 (Nev. 1969), *Bustos v. Sheriff*, 87 Nev. 622, 491 P.2d 1279 (Nev. 1971),
and the Eighth Judicial District Court Rule 14 (E.D.C.R. 14). This violation of
Mr. Browning's state guaranteed rights denied him due process and equal protection
in violation of his rights under the Sixth and Fourteenth Amendment.

24 Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 24; see also *id.* at 24-31. Browning has
25 presented this claim to the Nevada Supreme Court, and it is, therefore, exhausted in state court.
26

1 See Appellant's Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175),
2 pp. 70-78.

3 Claim 3

4 The introductory paragraph in Claim 3 of Browning's fifth amended habeas petition states:

5 The prosecution, in bad faith, improperly sought a continuance of
6 Mr. Browning's trial by a ruse. The trial court improperly granted the prosecution's
7 request, over defense objection. A key defense witness was available and willing to
8 testify at the trial; however, because of the improper continuance the witness became
9 unavailable, denying Mr. Browning his right to compel witnesses and present
10 evidence at trial, guaranteed by the Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments.

11 Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 32, lines 4-10. The concluding paragraph of
12 Claim 3 similarly claims "[t]he improper continuance thus denied Mr. Browning the right to call
13 witnesses in his behalf, present a defense, and fully challenge the prosecution's allegations." *Id.* at p.
14 37, lines 3-5. Notwithstanding this language in the introductory and concluding paragraphs of the
15 claim, Browning, in his reply characterizes Claim 3 as a claim "that the grant of the prosecution's
16 continuance requests violated Mr. Browning's Sixth Amendment speedy trial rights." Reply, p. 65,
17 lines 6-8. In their response to the reply, respondents accept the characterization of the claim as a
18 claim of violation of Browning's Sixth Amendment speedy trial rights. Response to Reply (ECF No.
19 150), pp. 10-12. Both Browning and the respondents have briefed the speedy trial issue. *See* Reply,
20 p. 65, lines 6-8; Response to Reply, pp. 10-12; *see also* Reply, pp. 65-68. The parties' reading of
21 Claim 3 is not completely unsupported by the language in Claim 3; Claim 3 does include discussion
22 of the Nevada Supreme Court's ruling, on Browning direct appeal, on a claim of violation of his
23 federal constitutional speedy trial rights. *See* Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp.
24 33-34, ¶¶ 5.36-5.36.3. The court, therefore, construes Claim 3 as a claim of violation of Browning's
25 speedy trial rights under the Sixth Amendment, and determines that claim was exhausted in state
26 court on Browning's direct appeal. *See* Appellant's Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 84 (ECF
No. 59-59), pp. 8-14; Appellant's Supplemental Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 87 (ECF No.
59-61), pp. 1-10.

1 Claim 4

2 In Claim 4 of his fifth amended habeas petition, Browning claims:

3 The prosecution failed to provide Mr. Browning with all relevant, material and
4 exculpatory evidence in violation of *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83, 87 (1963), and
5 its progeny. Additionally, the prosecution allowed testimony that was misleading or
6 false to go uncorrected in breach of *Napue v. Illinois*, 360 U.S. 264 (1959).

7 Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 38, lines 5-7. Claim 4 includes several
8 distinct subclaims, each based upon different factual assertions regarding the alleged misconduct of
9 the prosecution.

10 In paragraphs 5.43 through 5.43.3 of Claim 4, Browning claims that the prosecution
11 introduced misleading and inaccurate testimony, and failed to disclose material information,
12 regarding bloody shoe prints at the scene of the murder. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas
13 Corpus, pp. 39-40, ¶¶ 5.43-5.43.3. Respondents argue that the *Napue* claim based on these
14 allegations is unexhausted. *See* Answer, p. 61. However, Browning did raise both his *Brady* and
15 *Napue* claims based on these allegations in the Nevada Supreme Court, and those claims are
16 exhausted. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-
17 175), p. 30; Appellant’s Reply Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 251 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-181), p. 8.

18 In paragraphs 5.44 through 5.44.2 of Claim 4, Browning claims that the prosecution
19 introduced misleading and inaccurate testimony, and failed to disclose material information,
20 regarding the description of the murderer received by Officer Branon when he arrived upon the
21 scene. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 41-42, ¶¶ 5.44-5.44.2. Respondents
22 argue that both the *Brady* and *Napue* claims based on these allegations are unexhausted. *See*
23 Answer, p. 61. In his reply, though, Browning points out that, in his opening brief to the Nevada
24 Supreme Court in his state-court habeas action, he did claim a *Brady* violation based on these
25 allegations --albeit in a footnote in the section of the brief dealing with alleged ineffective assistance
26 of counsel. *See* Reply, pp. 20-81; *see also* Appellant’s Reply Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 251 (ECF
 No. 59-180 and 59-181), p. 44 n.23. Browning’s *Brady* claim based on these allegations is,

1 therefore, exhausted. Browning did not, however, argue to the Nevada Supreme Court that there was
2 a *Napue* violation based on these allegations; the fact that Browning used the words “prosecutorial
3 misconduct” in footnote 23 of the brief, to describe the prosecution’s handling of the description of
4 the murder received by Branon, did not fairly present to the Nevada Supreme Court a *Napue* claim
5 based on these allegations. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-
6 173, 59-174, 59-175); Appellant’s Reply Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 251 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-
7 181). The *Napue* claim based on these allegations is unexhausted.

8 In paragraph 5.45 of Claim 4, Browning claims that the prosecution introduced misleading
9 and inaccurate testimony regarding a jacket found at the Wolfes’ apartment. Fifth Amended Petition
10 for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 42, ¶ 5.45. Respondents argue that a *Brady* claim based on these
11 allegations would be unexhausted. *See* Answer, pp. 61-62. Browning replies that he does not intend
12 to raise a *Brady* claim with respect to these allegations. Reply, p. 83 n.32. The court, therefore,
13 construes paragraph 5.45 as asserting only a *Napue* claim, and determines that claim has been
14 exhausted in state court. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-
15 173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 21-24.

16 In paragraphs 5.46 through 5.49 of Claim 4, Browning claims that the prosecution committed
17 *Brady* and *Napue* violations with regard to information concerning the credibility of Randall Wolfe.
18 Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 42-46, ¶¶ 5.46-5.49. Respondents do not
19 raise an exhaustion issue with respect to this *Brady* claim; and, indeed, the *Brady* claim regarding
20 Randall Wolfe’s credibility is exhausted. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232
21 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 24-29. Respondents do argue that the *Napue* claim regarding
22 Randall Wolfe’s credibility is unexhausted. *See* Answer, p. 64. Browning concedes that he did not
23 cite the *Napue* case itself in this context in his opening brief on the appeal in his state-court habeas
24 action, but he claims that he exhausted the claim by citing *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150
25 (1972), and by a cryptic claim, in a footnote, of deception of the jury. *See* Reply, p. 88. The court
26 determines that the citation of *Giglio*, in the context of Browning’s non-disclosure claim, and

1 footnote 16, in the brief to the Nevada Supreme Court, did not fairly present to the court a claim of a
2 *Napue* violation with regard to the credibility of Randall Wolfe. Browning also argues that this
3 *Napue* claim was exhausted in a petition for extraordinary relief presented to the Nevada Supreme
4 Court by Browning, acting *pro se*, in 2009. *See* Respondents' Exhibit 394 (ECF Nos. 119-8, 119-9),
5 pp. 52-54. The court determines, however, that the assertion of this issue in Browning's petition for
6 extraordinary relief, which was denied by the Nevada Supreme Court without any consideration of
7 the merits of the petition, did not amount to exhaustion. *See Castille v. Peoples*, 489 U.S. 346, 349-
8 52 (1989) (claim not exhausted if presented for first time in a procedural context in which its merits
9 will not be considered absent extraordinary circumstances); *see also* Order Denying Petition,
10 Respondents' Exhibit 396 (ECF No. 119-10) ("We have reviewed the documents submitted in this
11 matter, and without deciding upon the merits of any claims, we decline to exercise original
12 jurisdiction in this matter."). The *Napue* claim, that the prosecution introduced misleading and
13 inaccurate testimony regarding the credibility of Randall Wolfe, is unexhausted.

14 In paragraphs 5.50 through 5.51 of Claim 4, Browning claims, similarly, that the prosecution
15 committed *Brady* and *Napue* violations with regard to information concerning the credibility of
16 Vanessa Wolfe. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 46-47, ¶¶ 5.50-5.51.
17 Respondents do not raise an exhaustion issue with respect to this *Brady* claim; indeed, the *Brady*
18 claim regarding Vanessa Wolfe's credibility is exhausted. *See* Appellant's Opening Brief,
19 Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), p. 29 n.17. Respondents do argue that
20 the *Napue* claim regarding Vanessa Wolfe's credibility is unexhausted. *See* Answer, p. 65. Here
21 again, Browning concedes that he did not cite the *Napue* case itself in this context in his opening
22 brief on the appeal in his state-court habeas action, but he claims that he exhausted the claim by
23 citing *Giglio*. *See* Reply, pp. 91-92. The court determines that the citation of *Giglio*, in the context
24 of Browning's non-disclosure claim, did not fairly present to the court a claim of a *Napue* violation
25 with regard to the credibility of Vanessa Wolfe. Browning also argues that this *Napue* claim was
26 exhausted by means of the petition for extraordinary relief he presented to the Nevada Supreme

1 Court, *pro se*, in 2009. See Respondents' Exhibit 394 (ECF Nos. 119-8, 119-9), pp. 52-54. The
2 court determines, however, that the assertion of this issue in Browning's petition for extraordinary
3 relief, which was denied by the Nevada Supreme Court without any consideration of the merits of
4 the petition, did not amount to exhaustion. See *Castille*, 489 U.S. at 349-52 (claim not exhausted if
5 presented for first time in a procedural context in which its merits will not be considered absent
6 extraordinary circumstances); see also Order Denying Petition, Respondents' Exhibit 396 (ECF No.
7 119-10) ("We have reviewed the documents submitted in this matter, and without deciding upon the
8 merits of any claims, we decline to exercise original jurisdiction in this matter."). The *Napue* claim,
9 that the prosecution introduced misleading and inaccurate testimony regarding the credibility of
10 Vanessa Wolfe, is unexhausted.

11 In paragraphs 5.52 through 5.55 of Claim 4, Browning claims that the prosecution committed
12 *Brady* and *Napue* violations with regard to information concerning Josy Elsen's identification of
13 Browning at trial. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 47-50, ¶¶ 5.52-5.55.
14 Respondents argue that both the *Brady* and *Napue* claims asserted in this part of Claim 4 are
15 unexhausted. See Answer, pp. 65-66. The court agrees. Browning claims that he asserted this
16 *Brady* claim in his petition in the state district court (Reply, p. 93, lines 1-9), but he does not point to
17 -- and this court has not found -- any assertion of this *Brady* claim in the briefs he submitted to the
18 Nevada Supreme Court. See Appellant's Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-
19 173, 59-174, 59-175); Appellant's Reply Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 251 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-
20 181). With respect to this *Napue* claim, Browning did assert, before the Nevada Supreme Court,
21 claims of prosecutorial misconduct related to Josy Elsen's identification of Browning (see
22 Appellant's Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 30-
23 33), but nowhere made the sort of *Napue* claim that he makes in paragraph 5.55 of Claim 4. Here
24 again, Browning argues that this claim was exhausted by means of the petition for extraordinary
25 relief he presented to the Nevada Supreme Court, *pro se*, in 2009. See Respondents' Exhibit 394
26 (ECF Nos. 119-8, 119-9). The court determines, however, that the assertion of this issue in

1 Browning’s petition for extraordinary relief, which was denied by the Nevada Supreme Court
2 without any consideration of the merits of the petition, did not amount to exhaustion. *See Castille*,
3 489 U.S. at 349-52 (claim not exhausted if presented for first time in a procedural context in which
4 its merits will not be considered absent extraordinary circumstances); *see also* Order Denying
5 Petition, Respondents’ Exhibit 396 (ECF No. 119-10) (“We have reviewed the documents submitted
6 in this matter, and without deciding upon the merits of any claims, we decline to exercise original
7 jurisdiction in this matter.”). The court finds that both the *Brady* and *Napue* claims, regarding Josy
8 Elsen’s identification of Browning, in paragraphs 5.52 through 5.55 of Claim 4, are unexhausted.

9 In paragraph 5.56 of Claim 4, Browning claims that the prosecution committed *Brady* and
10 *Napue* violations with regard to Browning’s alleged drug use. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of
11 Habeas Corpus, p. 50, ¶ 5.56. Respondents’ do not argue that these claims are unexhausted; rather,
12 respondents argue that they are procedurally defaulted. Answer, pp. 66-67. The court determines
13 that the *Brady* and *Napue* claims in paragraph 5.56 of Claim 4 are exhausted. *See* Appellant’s
14 Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 35-38.

15 In paragraphs 5.57-5.57.1 of Claim 4, Browning claims that the prosecution committed a
16 *Brady* violation by not disclosing a sketch of the Wolfes’ apartment. Fifth Amended Petition for
17 Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 51, ¶¶ 5.57-5.57.1. There does not appear to be a *Napue* claim asserted in
18 paragraphs 5.57 through 5.57.1. Respondents argue that this *Brady* claim is unexhausted. *See*
19 Answer, p. 67. Browning does not point to any assertion of this claim before the Nevada Supreme
20 Court. *See* Reply, p. 96. Indeed, it appears that this claim was not presented to the Nevada Supreme
21 Court. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-
22 175); Appellant’s Reply Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 251 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-181). This
23 *Brady* claim, regarding the sketch of the Wolfes’ apartment, is unexhausted.

24 Claim 5

25 In Claim 5, Browning claims that the prosecutor “committed numerous acts of misconduct
26 when he denigrated the presumption of innocence and reasonable doubt; shifted the burden of proof

1 to the defense; intentionally sought to inflame the jury with prejudicial characterizations of the
2 crime scene and personal attacks on Mr. Browning; told the jury it was their ‘duty’ to convict
3 Mr. Browning; and argued improper victim impact evidence.” Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of
4 Habeas Corpus, p. 52, lines 4-12. In paragraphs 5.59 through 5.65 of Claim 5, Browning alleges
5 seven distinct factual bases for this claim. *Id.*, pp. 52-56, ¶¶5.59-5.65.

6 In paragraph 5.59 of Claim 5, Browning claims that the prosecutor, in his closing argument,
7 committed misconduct by disparaging the presumption of innocence. *Id.*, p. 52, ¶5.59. Browning
8 asserted this claim before the Nevada Supreme Court on his direct appeal. *See* Appellant’s Opening
9 Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 84 (ECF No. 59-59), p. 20. Browning also raised this issue before the
10 Nevada Supreme Court on the appeal in his state-court habeas action. *See* Appellant’s Opening
11 Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 14, 34-35. The claim in
12 paragraph 5.59 is exhausted.

13 In paragraph 5.60 of Claim 5, Browning claims that the prosecutor, in his rebuttal closing
14 argument, minimized the importance of the reasonable doubt standard, by discussing it in the context
15 of everyday decision making. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 53, ¶5.60. In
16 particular, Browning complains of the following argument made by the prosecutor:

17 You can’t think of a situation in your life that’s had any even minor degree or
18 complications which you have resolved all of the questions. You just can’t do it. So,
19 don’t anticipate answering all the questions in this case as a prerequisite to coming
back with a guilty verdict. It has nothing to do whatsoever with reasonable doubt.

20 *Id.* Browning did not make this claim on his direct appeal. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief,
21 Respondents’ Exhibit 84 (ECF No. 59-59); Appellant’s Supplemental Opening Brief, Respondents’
22 Exhibit 87 (ECF No. 59-61); Appellant’s Reply Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 90 (ECF No. 59-64).
23 Browning did make this claim, however, on the appeal in his state-court habeas action (albeit in the
24 part of his brief dealing with alleged ineffective assistance of appellate counsel). *See* Appellant’s
25 Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), p. 62. The claim
26 made by Browning in paragraph 5.60 is exhausted.

1 In paragraph 5.61, Browning claims that the prosecutor committed misconduct in his closing
2 argument when he made arguments that included a references to the movie “Something Wicked This
3 Way Comes,” and the “Friday the 13th” movies. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus,
4 pp. 53-54, ¶5.61. In paragraph 5.61, Browning also complains that the prosecutor made assertions
5 that Browning “was a heroin addict who liked killing,” and that he “shot the life of Hugo Elsen right
6 up his arm.” *Id.* Browning made these arguments on his direct appeal. *See* Appellant’s Opening
7 Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 84 (ECF No. 59-59), pp. 18, 20-23; Appellant’s Reply Brief,
8 Respondents’ Exhibit 90 (ECF No. 59-64), pp. 7-8. Browning also made these arguments on the
9 appeal in his state-court habeas action. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232
10 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 14, 38, 56. The claim of prosecutorial misconduct in
11 paragraph 5.61 is exhausted.

12 In paragraph 5.62, Browning claims that the prosecutor committed misconduct, in his closing
13 argument, by commenting on the absence of Marsha Gaylord as a witness. Fifth Amended Petition
14 for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 54, ¶5.62. Browning did not raise this issue on his direct appeal.
15 *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 84 (ECF No. 59-59); Appellant’s
16 Supplemental Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 87 (ECF No. 59-61); Appellant’s Reply Brief,
17 Respondents’ Exhibit 90 (ECF No. 59-64). Browning did, however, raise this issue on the appeal in
18 his state-court habeas action. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No.
19 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 15, 33-34; Appellant’s Reply Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 251 (ECF
20 No. 59-180 and 59-181), p. 4. The claim made by Browning in paragraph 5.62 is exhausted.

21 In paragraph 5.63, Browning claims that the prosecutor committed misconduct by
22 introducing to the jury a photograph of Browning taken in the course of a prior arrest, and making
23 arguments regarding the photograph that indicated to the jury that Browning had engaged in prior
24 criminal activity. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 54-55, ¶5.63. Browning
25 did not raise this issue on his direct appeal. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 84
26 (ECF No. 59-59); Appellant’s Supplemental Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 87 (ECF No. 59-

1 61); Appellant’s Reply Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 90 (ECF No. 59-64). Browning did, however,
2 raise this issue on the appeal in his state-court habeas action. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief,
3 Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), p. 37. The claim made by Browning
4 in paragraph 5.63 is exhausted.

5 In paragraph 5.64, Browning claims that the prosecutor committed misconduct by requesting
6 the jury to put themselves in the place of the victim, and by suggesting to the jury that it was their
7 job, or duty, to convict Browning. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 55, ¶5.64.
8 The first part of this claim – that the prosecutor committed misconduct by requesting the jury to put
9 themselves in the place of the victim – was raised by Browning on his direct appeal. *See* Appellant’s
10 Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 84 (ECF No. 59-59), p. 22. On the appeal in his state-court
11 habeas action, Browning raised, before the Nevada Supreme Court, the other part of this claim -- the
12 argument that the prosecutor improperly suggested to the jury that it was their job, or duty, to convict
13 Browning. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-
14 175), pp. 34-35. The claims in paragraph 5.64 are exhausted.

15 In paragraph 5.65, Browning claims that the prosecutor committed misconduct by arguing to
16 the jury that Marsha Gaylord was a prostitute, and by arguing that Browning’s motivation to rob the
17 jewelry store was to obtain money to bail Gaylord out of jail so she could resume making money for
18 them by prostituting herself. Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 55-56, ¶5.65.
19 On his direct appeal, Browning raised a similar claim – focusing on alleged attempts by the
20 prosecutor to characterize Gaylord as a prostitute while questioning witnesses, instead of focusing on
21 improper argument, as he does now. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 84 (ECF
22 No. 59-59), p. 19. Browning also raised this issue on the appeal in his state-court habeas action. *See*
23 Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 35-38.
24 The claim made by Browning in paragraph 5.65 is exhausted.

25
26

1 Claim 6

2 In Claim 6, Browning claims that he was denied effective assistance of counsel at trial in
3 violation of his rights under the Fifth, Sixth, Eighth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the United
4 States Constitution. *See* Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 57-73. Claim 6
5 includes several distinct subclaims, each based upon different factual assertions regarding the alleged
6 shortcomings of counsel’s representation of Browning at trial.

7 In paragraphs 5.68 through 5.68.2 of Claim 6, Browning claims that his counsel was
8 ineffective for failing to object, make a motion, or request a curative instruction, when the prosecutor
9 made certain statements in closing argument allegedly disparaging the presumption of innocence.
10 *See* Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 57-58, ¶¶5.68-5.68.2. Browning made
11 this claim on the appeal in his state habeas action. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’
12 Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), p. 55. This claim is exhausted.

13 In paragraphs 5.69 through 5.69.2, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for
14 failing to object, or request a curative instruction, when the judge provided the jury a jury instruction
15 (Jury Instruction No. 22) regarding the presumption of innocence and reasonable doubt. *See* Fifth
16 Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 59-60, ¶¶5.69-5.69.2. Browning made this claim
17 on the appeal in his state habeas action. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232
18 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), p. 55. This claim is exhausted.

19 In paragraphs 5.70 through 5.70.2, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for
20 failing to object to the prosecutor’s statements regarding Browning’s alleged heroin use. *See* Fifth
21 Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 60-61, ¶¶5.70-5.70.2. Browning made this claim
22 on the appeal in his state habeas action. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232
23 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), p. 56. This claim is exhausted.

24 In paragraph 5.71, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for failing to object
25 when the prosecutor argued to the jury that the blood on a jacket alleged to belong to Browning was
26 the victim’s blood, and further argued that singular fact was sufficient proof of guilt. *See* Fifth

1 Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 61-62, ¶5.71. Respondents argue that this claim is
2 unexhausted. *See Answer*, pp. 71-72. However, the court finds that Browning did raise this claim
3 before the Nevada Supreme Court on his appeal in his state habeas action. *See Appellant’s Opening*
4 *Brief*, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), p. 23 n. 11. This claim is
5 exhausted.

6 In paragraphs 5.72 through 5.72.3, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective with
7 respect to the absence of Marsha Gaylord as a witness at trial. *See Fifth Amended Petition for Writ*
8 *of Habeas Corpus*, pp. 62-63, ¶¶5.720-5.72.3. Respondents construe this as a claim that counsel was
9 ineffective for failing to secure Gaylord’s attendance at trial. *See Answer*, pp. 72-73. In his reply,
10 however, Browning construes the claim in paragraphs 5.72 through 5.72.3 as a claim that counsel
11 was ineffective for failing “to object or request a curative instruction when the prosecution shifted
12 the burden to the defense to explain why they didn’t call a relevant and exculpatory witness.” Reply,
13 p. 118, lines 17-22. The court accepts Browning’s characterization of this claim, and, as such, finds
14 it to have been exhausted by Browning on the appeal in his state-court habeas action. *See*
15 *Appellant’s Opening Brief*, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), p. 56.

16 In paragraphs 5.73 through 5.73.7, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for
17 failing to attempt to exclude the testimony of Josy Elsen identifying Browning as the murderer of her
18 husband. *See Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus*, pp. 63-65, ¶¶5.73-5.73.7.
19 Browning made this claim on the appeal in his state habeas action. *See Appellant’s Opening Brief*,
20 Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 50-53. This claim is exhausted.

21 In paragraph 5.74, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for failing to use
22 available exculpatory evidence to properly move to exclude Debra Coe’s identification outside the
23 presence of the jury. *See Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus*, pp. 65-66, ¶5.74.
24 Browning made this claim on the appeal in his state habeas action. *See Appellant’s Reply Brief*,
25 Respondents’ Exhibit 251 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-181), pp. 10-11. This claim is exhausted.

26

1 In paragraph 5.75, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for not properly using a
2 prior out of court statement to impeach the testimony of Debra Coe. *See* Fifth Amended Petition for
3 Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 66-67, ¶5.75. Respondents argue that this claim is unexhausted.
4 Answer, p. 74. However, before the Nevada Supreme Court, Browning did claim that his counsel
5 was ineffective for failing to properly cross-examine and impeach Debra Coe. *See* Appellant's
6 Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 48-49. The claim
7 made in paragraph 5.75 is exhausted.

8 In paragraphs 5.76 through 5.76.6, Browning claims further that his counsel was ineffective
9 with respect to his cross-examination of Debra Coe. *See* Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas
10 Corpus, pp. 67-69, ¶¶5.76-5.76.6. Again, before the Nevada Supreme Court, Browning did claim
11 that his counsel was ineffective for failing to properly cross-examine and impeach Debra Coe. *See*
12 Appellant's Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 48-49.
13 The claim made in paragraphs 5.76 through 5.76.6 is exhausted.

14 In paragraphs 5.77 through 5.77.3, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for
15 failing to object to the admission into evidence of a photograph depicting Browning wearing a tan
16 jacket. *See* Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 69-70, ¶¶5.77-5.77.3.
17 Respondents argue that this claim is not exhausted. *See* Answer, pp. 74-75. However, the court
18 finds that, on his appeal in his state-court habeas action, Browning did raise a claim sufficiently
19 similar to this one, such that the claim in paragraphs 5.77 through 5.77.3 is exhausted. *See*
20 Appellant's Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175),
21 pp. 49-50.

22 In paragraph 5.78, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for failing to request a
23 jury instruction, regarding the testimony of Randall and Vanessa Wolfe, cautioning the jury about the
24 credibility of informers and drug addicts as witnesses. *See* Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of
25 Habeas Corpus, pp. 70-71, ¶5.78. Respondents argue that this claim is unexhausted, pointing out
26 that Browning raised the claim in his habeas petition in the state district court, but appears to have

1 abandoned the claim on appeal. *See Answer*, pp. 75-76. Browning responds, in his reply, asserting
2 that he raised the claim at page 67 of his opening brief before the Nevada Supreme Court. *See*
3 Reply, p. 136. However, the claim that Browning refers to, on page 67 of his opening brief before
4 the Nevada Supreme Court, was a claim that *appellate* counsel was ineffective in that *appellate*
5 counsel “should have raised the issue that the trial court should have given the jury an addict-
6 informer instruction.” *See Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173,*
7 *59-174, 59-175)*, p. 67, lines 2-3. This claim by Browning in the state supreme court did not exhaust
8 his claim here, in paragraph 5.78 of his fifth amended habeas petition, that *trial* counsel was
9 ineffective for not requesting an addict-informer instruction. The claim in paragraph 5.78 is
10 unexhausted.

11 In paragraph 5.79, Browning claims, further, that his counsel was ineffective for failing to
12 object to the admission into evidence of an “out-dated” photograph of Browning and the
13 prosecution’s use of the photograph to argue that Browning had engaged in prior criminal activity.
14 *See Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus*, p. 71, ¶5.79. Browning raised this claim on
15 the appeal in his state-court habeas action. *See Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit*
16 *232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175)*, pp. 49-50. The claim in paragraph 5.79 is exhausted.

17 In paragraph 5.80, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for failing to object to
18 the prosecutor’s statement to the jury that it was their duty to put themselves in the shoes of the
19 victim and convict Browning, and in failing to request a curative instruction in response to that
20 argument. *See Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus*, p. 71, ¶5.80. Respondents argue
21 that this claim is unexhausted. *See Answer*, pp. 76-77. Browning did make the claim before the
22 Nevada Supreme Court that his counsel “failed to object to Seaton’s statement to the jury that it was
23 their ‘duty’ to find the defendant guilty.” *See Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232*
24 *(ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175)*, p. 55, lines 3-4. That claim is exhausted. However, it appears
25 that Browning did not argue to the Nevada Supreme Court that his counsel was ineffective for failing
26 to object, or request a curative instruction, with respect to the prosecutor’s argument that the jurors

1 should put themselves in the shoes of the victim. *See* Appellant's Opening Brief, Respondents'
2 Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175); Appellant's Reply Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 251
3 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-181). The latter claim – Browning's claim in paragraph 5.80 that his
4 counsel was ineffective for failing to object, or request a curative instruction, with respect to the
5 prosecutor's argument that the jurors should put themselves in the shoes of the victim – is
6 unexhausted.

7 In paragraph 5.81, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for failing to object to
8 the admission into evidence of a photograph of the victim, Hugo Elsen, with a child sitting on his
9 lap, and for failing to object and request a curative instruction with regard to the prosecutor's
10 argument based on that photograph. *See* Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 72,
11 ¶5.81. Browning raised this claim on the appeal in his state-court habeas action. *See* Appellant's
12 Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), p. 56. The claim in
13 paragraph 5.81 is exhausted.

14 In paragraph 5.82, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for failing to object to a
15 comment made by the trial judge regarding the knife that was allegedly used to kill Hugo Elsen, and
16 for failing to request a curative instruction regarding that comment. *See* Fifth Amended Petition for
17 Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 72, ¶5.82. Respondents argue that this claim is unexhausted. *See*
18 Answer, pp. 77-78. The court agrees. Browning did not make this claim before the Nevada
19 Supreme Court. *See* Appellant's Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174,
20 59-175); Appellant's Reply Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 251 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-181).
21 The claim in paragraph 5.82 is unexhausted.

22 In paragraph 5.83, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for failing to object to
23 arguments made by the prosecutor, in which the prosecutor asserted that Marsha Gaylord was a
24 prostitute. *See* Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 73, ¶5.83. Browning raised
25 this claim on the appeal in his state-court habeas action. *See* Appellant's Opening Brief,
26

1 Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), p. 56. The claim in paragraph 5.83 is
2 exhausted.

3 In paragraph 5.84, Browning claims that his counsel was ineffective for failing to object to
4 allegedly misleading statements by the prosecutor about a Casio watch. *See* Fifth Amended Petition
5 for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 73, ¶5.84. Respondents argue that this claim is unexhausted. *See*
6 Answer, p. 78. Browning responds, in his reply, asserting that he raised the claim at page 63 of his
7 opening brief before the Nevada Supreme Court. *See* Reply, p. 145. However, the claim that
8 Browning refers to, on page 63 of his opening brief before the Nevada Supreme Court, was a claim
9 that *appellate* counsel was ineffective for not raising the issue of the allegedly improper admission
10 into evidence of a thumbprint found on the Casio watch. *See* Appellant's Opening Brief,
11 Respondents' Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), pp. 63-64. This claim by Browning in
12 the state supreme court did not exhaust his claim here, in paragraph 5.84 of his fifth amended habeas
13 petition, that *trial* counsel was ineffective for failing to object to allegedly misleading statements by
14 the prosecutor about the watch. The claim in paragraph 5.84 is unexhausted.

15 Claim 7

16 In Claim 7 of his fifth amended habeas petition, Browning claims that Josy Elsen's in-court
17 identification of him as her husband's murderer was unconstitutionally unreliable. *See* Fifth
18 Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 74; *see also id.* at 74-82. Browning asserted a
19 similar claim on his direct appeal. *See* Appellant's Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 84 (ECF
20 No. 59-59), pp. 28, 30-31; Appellant's Supplemental Opening Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 87 (ECF
21 No. 59-61), pp. 15-18; Appellant's Reply Brief, Respondents' Exhibit 90 (ECF No. 59-64), pp. 11-
22 13. Also, on the appeal in his state-court habeas action, in his reply brief before the Nevada Supreme
23 Court, Browning claimed to have raised a similar claim (although the assertion of such a claim,
24 independent of his claims of ineffective assistance of counsel and prosecutorial misconduct, was not
25 apparent in the opening brief, or elsewhere in the reply brief). *See* Appellant's Reply Brief,
26 Respondents' Exhibit 251 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-181), p. 12 ("This [Nevada Supreme] Court [on

1 the direct appeal] did not address the issues presented here: whether counsel was ineffective because
2 of his failure to move for suppression of the identification and whether admission of the
3 identification violated the federal constitutional right of due process.”). Claim 7 is exhausted.

4 Claim 8

5 In Claim 8 of his fifth amended habeas petition, Browning claims that his “constitutional
6 right to due process was violated by the giving of an instruction on premeditation and deliberation
7 that effectively removed an essential element and the requirement that all elements be proven and
8 found beyond a reasonable doubt.” Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 83; *see*
9 *also id.* at 83-87. Respondents argue that this claim is unexhausted. *See Answer*, pp. 80-81. The
10 court agrees, and finds this claim unexhausted, as it was raised neither on Browning’s direct appeal
11 nor on the appeal in his state-court habeas action. *See Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’*
12 *Exhibit 84 (ECF No. 59-59); Appellant’s Supplemental Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 87*
13 *(ECF No. 59-61); Appellant’s Reply Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 90 (ECF No. 59-64); Appellant’s*
14 *Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175); Appellant’s Reply*
15 *Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 251 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-181).*

16 Browning argues, in his reply, that “[t]he issue regarding the adequacy of the premeditation
17 instruction was raised in the opening brief to the Nevada Supreme Court [on the appeal in the state-
18 court habeas action] as part of the appellate ineffectiveness claims.” *See Reply*, p. 157. However,
19 Browning’s assertion of a claim of ineffective assistance of counsel related to this claim did not
20 exhaust this claim. *See Kelly v. Small*, 315 F.3d 1063, 1068 n.2 (9th Cir. 2003) (although petitioner
21 exhausted a claim of ineffective assistance based on counsel’s failure to object to alleged
22 prosecutorial misconduct, petitioner had not exhausted a related ineffective assistance claim
23 premised on counsel’s failure to file a motion to recuse the prosecutor based on that same
24 misconduct); *see also Rose v. Palmateer*, 395 F.3d 1108, 1111-12 (9th Cir. 2005) (“Here, although
25 Rose’s Fifth Amendment claim is related to his claim of ineffective assistance, he did not fairly
26 present the Fifth Amendment claim to the state courts when he merely discussed it as one of several

1 issues which were handled ineffectively by his trial and appellate counsel. While admittedly related,
2 they are distinct claims with separate elements of proof, and each claim should have been separately
3 and specifically presented to the state courts.”).

4 Browning also argues in his reply that he raised this claim in his 2009 *pro se* petition to the
5 Nevada Supreme Court for extraordinary relief. *See* Respondents’ Exhibit 394 (ECF Nos. 119-8,
6 119-9). However, the assertion of this issue in Browning’s petition for extraordinary relief, which
7 was denied by the Nevada Supreme Court without any consideration of the merits of the petition, did
8 not amount to exhaustion. *See Castille v. Peoples*, 489 U.S. 346, 349-52 (1989) (claim not
9 exhausted if presented for first time in a procedural context in which its merits will not be considered
10 absent extraordinary circumstances); *see also* Order Denying Petition, Respondents’ Exhibit 396
11 (ECF No. 119-10) (“We have reviewed the documents submitted in this matter, and without deciding
12 upon the merits of any claims, we decline to exercise original jurisdiction in this matter.”).

13 Claim 8 is unexhausted.

14 Claim 9

15 In Claim 9 of his fifth amended habeas petition, Browning claims that his “due process
16 guarantee was violated when the court gave an instruction that inadequately defined reasonable
17 doubt and permitted the jury to convict Mr. Browning based on a lesser quantum of evidence [than]
18 is constitutionally required.” Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 88; *see also id.*
19 at 88-90. Respondents argue that this claim is unexhausted. *See* Answer, pp. 81-82. The court
20 agrees, and finds this claim unexhausted, as it was raised neither on Browning’s direct appeal nor on
21 the appeal in his state-court habeas action. *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 84
22 (ECF No. 59-59); Appellant’s Supplemental Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 87 (ECF No. 59-
23 61); Appellant’s Reply Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 90 (ECF No. 59-64); Appellant’s Opening Brief,
24 Respondents’ Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175); Appellant’s Reply Brief,
25 Respondents’ Exhibit 251 (ECF No. 59-180 and 59-181).

26 Browning argues, in his reply, that this claim is exhausted, citing a portion of his opening

1 brief on the appeal in his state-court habeas action dealing with a related claim of ineffective
2 assistance of counsel. *See* Reply, pp. 164-65, citing Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’
3 Exhibit 232 (ECF No. 59-173, 59-174, 59-175), p. 55. However, here again, Browning’s assertion
4 of a claim of ineffective assistance of counsel related to this claim did not exhaust this claim.
5 *See Kelly*, 315 F.3d at 1068 n.2; *see also Rose*, 395 F.3d at 1111-12.

6 Claim 9 is unexhausted.

7 Claim 10

8 In Claim 10 of his fifth amended habeas petition, Browning claims that his constitutional
9 rights were violated, at his resentencing, because “the prosecution, with the blessing of Judge
10 Pavlikowski, knowingly introduced concededly false evidence to the second penalty jury, and the
11 trial court prohibited the defense from challenging these falsehoods in any way.” Fifth Amended
12 Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, p. 91; *see also id.* at 91-103. Specifically, Browning claims that,
13 at the resentencing, the prosecution offered, and the court admitted, false evidence regarding the
14 bloody footprints at the scene of the murder (*id.* at ¶¶5.112-5.113.2), the tan jacket (*id.* at ¶5.114),
15 Randall Wolfe (*id.* at ¶¶5.115-5.117), Vanessa Wolfe (*id.* at ¶¶5.118-5.119), Josy Elsen’s
16 identification of Browning (*id.* at ¶¶5.120-5.121), Hugo Elsen’s dying declaration (*id.* at ¶¶5.122-
17 5.123), Browning’s fingerprints on a piece of glass found at the scene of the murder (*id.* at ¶5.124),
18 and the Casio watch found at the Wolfes’ apartment (*id.* at ¶¶5.125-5.126). Respondents do not
19 challenge Claim 10 on exhaustion grounds. *See* Answer, pp. 82-87. Indeed, the record reflects that
20 Browning presented this claim to the Nevada Supreme Court on the appeal from the resentencing.
21 *See* Appellant’s Opening Brief, Respondents’ Exhibit 378 (ECF No. 119-1), pp. 14-40. Claim 10 is
22 exhausted.

23 Claim 11

24 Finally, Claim 11 of Browning’s fifth amended habeas petition is a cumulative error claim.
25 *See* Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, pp. 104-05. In Claim 11, Browning claims:

26 The cumulative effect of the errors demonstrated in this petition deprived Mr.
Browning of fundamentally fair proceedings and resulted in a constitutionally

1 unreliable guilt determination. Whether or not any individual error requires the
2 vacation of his conviction, the totality of these errors and omissions resulted in
substantial prejudice to Mr. Browning.

3 *Id.* at 104. Respondents do not appear to challenge Claim 11 on exhaustion grounds. *See Answer,*
4 pp. 87-89. As Claim 11 is a cumulative error claim, and because there are many claims in the fifth
5 amended petition that are exhausted, Claim 11 is exhausted,.

6 Browning's Election

7 As is discussed above, the court finds the following of Browning's claims, in his fifth
8 amended habeas petition, to be unexhausted in state court:

- 9 - the claim that his counsel was ineffective for failing to conduct sufficient
10 investigation of the knife (subclaim in Claim 1 at ¶¶ 5.12 through 5.12.4);
- 11 - the claim that his counsel was ineffective for failing to do investigation to
12 discover "that the police examined Mr. Browning's shoes and his body for
13 cuts, scrapes or any other injuries that might be consistent with the broken
14 glass and/or blood; and nothing was found," for failing to do investigation to
15 discover "that the Las Vegas Police Department specifically requested the
16 Las Vegas Crime Lab to test Mr. Browning's clothes, with no results tying Mr.
17 Browning to the crime scene," and for failing to do investigation to discover
18 that witnesses -- other than Debra Coe -- did not observe blood on Browning
19 and did not observe him carrying anything in his hands, such as jewelry or the
20 three foot-long jewelry trays (subclaim in Claim 1 at ¶¶ 5.14 through 5.14.5);
- 21 - the claim that his counsel was ineffective for failing to locate and interview
22 Mike Hines regarding the sale of the stolen jewelry (subclaim in Claim 1 at ¶¶
23 5.16 through 5.16.4);
- 24 - the claim that his counsel was ineffective for failing to conduct a pretrial
25 interview of Kathy Adkins, an identification specialist with the
26 Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, and a witness for the prosecution
at Browning's trial, and for failing to conduct pretrial investigation to discover
the existence of a sketch of the Wolfes' motel room showing the location of
each item recovered there (subclaim in Claim 1 at ¶¶ 5.17 through 5.17.3);
- the *Napue* claim, that the prosecution introduced misleading and inaccurate
testimony regarding the description of the murderer received by Officer
Branon when he arrived upon the scene (subclaim in Claim 4 at
¶¶ 5.44-5.44.2);
- the *Napue* claim, that the prosecution introduced misleading and inaccurate
testimony regarding the credibility of Randall Wolfe (subclaim in Claim 4 at
¶¶ 5.46-5.49);
- the *Napue* claim, that the prosecution introduced misleading and inaccurate
testimony regarding the credibility of Vanessa Wolfe (subclaim in Claim 4 at
¶¶ 5.50-5.51);

- 1 - the *Brady* and *Napue* claims, regarding Josy Elsen’s identification of
2 Browning (subclaim in Claim 4 at ¶¶5.52-5.55);
- 3 - the *Brady* claim, that the prosecution did not disclose a sketch of the Wolfes’
4 apartment (subclaim in Claim 4 at ¶¶ 5.57-5.57.1);
- 5 - the claim that counsel was ineffective for failing to request a jury instruction,
6 regarding the testimony of Randall and Vanessa Wolfe, cautioning the jury
7 about the credibility of informers and drug addicts as witnesses (subclaim in
8 Claim 6 at ¶5.78);
- 9 - the claim that counsel was ineffective for failing to object, or request a
10 curative instruction, with respect to the prosecutor’s argument that the jurors
11 should put themselves in the shoes of the victim (subclaim in Claim 6 at
12 ¶5.80);
- 13 - the claim that counsel was ineffective for failing to object to a comment made
14 by the trial judge regarding the knife that was allegedly used to kill Hugo
15 Elsen, and for failing to request a curative instruction regarding that comment
16 (subclaim in Claim 6 at ¶5.82);
- 17 - the claim that counsel was ineffective for failing to object to allegedly
18 misleading statements by the prosecutor about a Casio watch (subclaim in
19 Claim 6 at ¶5.84);
- 20 - the claim that his constitutional right to due process was violated by the giving
21 of an instruction on premeditation and deliberation that effectively removed an
22 essential element and the requirement that all elements be proven and found
23 beyond a reasonable doubt (Claim 8, ¶¶5.98-5.102.2);
- 24 - the claim that his due process guarantee was violated when the court gave an
25 instruction that inadequately defined reasonable doubt and permitted the jury
26 to convict Mr. Browning based on a lesser quantum of evidence than is
constitutionally required (Claim 9, ¶¶5.103-5.105)

19 With respect to these unexhausted claims, the court will direct Browning to make an election.
20 Browning must either file a notice of abandonment of the unexhausted claims, indicating that he
21 elects to abandon the unexhausted claims and proceed with the litigation of his remaining exhausted
22 claims, or, alternatively, file a motion for stay, requesting a stay of these proceedings to allow him to
23 return to state court to exhaust the unexhausted claims. If Browning elects to file a motion for stay,
24 he must make a showing that a stay is warranted, as prescribed in the Supreme Court case of *Rhines*
25 *v. Weber*, 544 U.S. 269 (2005). If petitioner does not, within the time allowed, file a notice of
26 abandonment of all his unexhausted claims, or a motion for a stay to allow exhaustion of his

1 unexhausted claims in state court, Browning's entire fifth amended habeas petition will be dismissed
2 pursuant to *Rose v. Lundy*, 455 U.S. 509 (1982).

3 **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that petitioner's "Motion and Memorandum for Oral
4 Argument on Petitioner's Fifth Amended Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §
5 2254 by a Person in State Custody" (ECF No. 160) is **DENIED**.

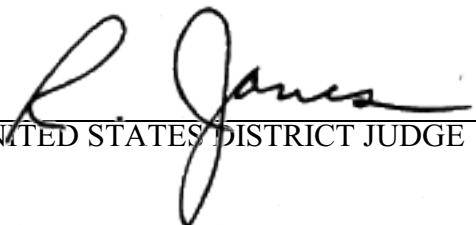
6 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that petitioner shall have until and including **May 17, 2013**,
7 to file a notice of abandonment of all his unexhausted claims, or a motion for a stay to allow
8 exhaustion of his unexhausted claims in state court, as described in more detail above.

9 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, if petitioner files a notice of abandonment of all his
10 unexhausted claims, the case will remain under submission to the court with respect to the merits of
11 petitioner's remaining exhausted claims.

12 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, if petitioner files a motion for a stay to allow
13 exhaustion of his unexhausted claims in state court, respondents shall thereafter have 30 days to file
14 a response to that motion, and petitioner shall thereafter have 20 days to file a reply.

15 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, if petitioner does not, within the time allowed, file a
16 notice of abandonment of all his unexhausted claims, or a motion for a stay to allow exhaustion of
17 his unexhausted claims in state court, Browning's entire fifth amended habeas petition will be
18 dismissed pursuant to *Rose v. Lundy*, 455 U.S. 509 (1982).

19 Dated this 5th day of April, 2013.

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22 
23 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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