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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

TIMOTHY HOWARD JOHNSON,

Petitioner,

vs.

ROBERT LeGRAND, *et al.*,

Respondents.

Case No. 3:15-cv-00258-HDM-WGC

**ORDER**

This action is a *pro se* petition for a writ of habeas corpus filed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254 by a Nevada state prisoner.

Petitioner has filed an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* in this action. (ECF No. 3). On November 18, 2015, petitioner paid the filing fee for this action. (ECF No. 4). Thus, the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* is denied as moot.

The Court has conducted a preliminary review of the petition pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases in the United States District Courts. The Court must dismiss a petition “[i]f it plainly appears from the petition and any attached exhibits that the petitioner is not entitled to relief in the district court.” Rule 4 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases; *see also Hendricks v. Vasquez*, 908 F.2d 490 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1990).

1           It appears that the petition filed in this action is subject to dismissal as successive for failure  
2 to comply with the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b). Section 2244(b) requires that a petitioner  
3 seeking to file a “second or successive” habeas petition must first obtain authorization from the  
4 federal Court of Appeals to do so. *See Burton v. Stewart*, 549 U.S. 147, 157 (2007) (where  
5 petitioner did not receive authorization from the federal Court of Appeals before filing a second or  
6 successive petition, “the District Court was without jurisdiction to entertain [the petition]”);  
7 *Barapind v. Reno*, 225 F.3d 1100, 1111 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000) (“the prior-appellate-review mechanism set  
8 forth in § 2244(b) requires the permission of the Court of Appeals before a second or successive  
9 habeas application under § 2254 may be commenced”). If an earlier federal petition is dismissed on  
10 the merits, any subsequent petition challenging the same conviction or sentence will constitute a  
11 second or successive petition. *See, e.g., Henderson v. Lampert*, 396 F.3d 1049, 1052-53 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir.  
12 2005).

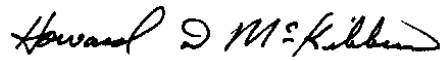
13           The Court takes judicial notice of prior habeas corpus actions filed by petitioner in this Court  
14 under the following case numbers: 3:88-cv-00483; 3:92-cv-00372; and 3:93-cv-00490. Petitioner’s  
15 first habeas corpus action, filed as case number 3:88-cv-00483, was reviewed on the merits and  
16 denied by order filed May 19, 1989. (ECF No. 14 in 3:88-cv-00483). Petitioner filed a second  
17 habeas petition in case number 3:92-00372, which was reviewed on the merits and denied on May  
18 19, 1994. (ECF No. 42 in 3:92-00372). Petitioner filed a third habeas petition in case number 3:93-  
19 490, which was dismissed on May 17, 1994. (ECF No. 8 in case number 3:93-490). Petitioner has  
20 not obtained authorization from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to file the instant successive  
21 habeas petition. As such, this the successive petition filed in the instant case is subject to dismissal.  
22 Petitioner will be given an opportunity to submit any proof he might have to demonstrate that he has  
23 obtained leave of the Court of Appeals to present this successive petition.

24           **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that petitioner’s application to proceed *in forma pauperis*  
25 (ECF No. 3) is **DENIED AS MOOT**.

26           **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, within **thirty (30) days** from the date of entry of this  
27 order, petitioner **SHALL FILE** such proof as he may have to demonstrate that he has obtained  
28 authorization from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to present the successive petition filed in this

1 action. If petitioner is unable to demonstrate that he has obtained permission of the Court of  
2 Appeals, the Court will enter an order dismissing the successive petition.

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4 Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015.

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HOWARD D. McKIBBEN  
7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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