Andrade-Mendoza complains that his appellate counsel was ineffective in not raising any federal constitutional claims on his direct appeal. However, any claim of ineffective assistance of appellate counsel must be exhausted in Andrade-Mendoza's state habeas action, which remains pending, before he may assert such a claim in a federal habeas corpus action.

Andrade-Mendoza requests that this federal action be stayed, apparently pending the completion of his state habeas action. In some cases, a federal district court may permit the filing of a federal habeas petition even though it contains no claims exhausted in state court. *See Pace v. DiGuglielmo*, 544 U.S. 408, 416 (2005); *Bonner v. Carey*, 425 F.3d 1145, 1149 n.20 (9th Cir.2005). In *Pace*, the Supreme Court stated that a petitioner might file "a 'protective' petition in federal court and [ask] the federal court to stay and abey the federal habeas proceeding until state remedies are exhausted." *Pace*, 544 U.S. at 416. "A petitioner's reasonable confusion about whether a state filing would be timely will ordinarily constitute "good cause" for him to file in federal court." *Id.* In this case, however, there is no showing of any reason for confusion regarding the timeliness of Andrade-Mendoza's pending state habeas action. Andrade-Mendoza's federal habeas petition simply appears to be premature. There is no showing of good cause for a stay of this action.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that this action is **DISMISSED** without prejudice.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that petitioner's motion for appointment of counsel (ECF No. 8) is **DENIED** as moot.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that petitioner is denied a certificate of appealability.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Court shall enter judgment accordingly.

Dated this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2015.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE** 

Howard DMEKiller