

No. _____

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

JESSE WILLIAM MENDEZ, PETITIONER

vs.

GARY SWARTHOUT, Warden, RESPONDENT

and

SCOTT FRAUENHEIM, Warden. RESPONDENT

ON PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED
STATES SUPREME COURT FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

APPENDIX TO PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI

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APPENDIX A

FILED

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

MAY 4 2018

MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK
U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

JESSE WILLIAM MENDEZ,
Petitioner-Appellant,
v.
GARY SWARTHOUT, Warden,
Respondent-Appellee,
and
SCOTT FRAUENHEIM, Warden,
Respondent.

No. 16-15026
D.C. No. 3:13-cv-02797-EMC

MEMORANDUM*

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Northern District of California
Edward M. Chen, District Judge, Presiding

Argued and Submitted February 16, 2018
San Francisco, California

Before: BEA and N.R. SMITH, Circuit Judges, and LASNIK, ** District Judge.

We write primarily for the parties who are familiar with the underlying facts.

* This disposition is not appropriate for publication and is not precedent except as provided by Ninth Circuit Rule 36-3.

** The Honorable Robert S. Lasnik, United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, sitting by designation.

This habeas appeal stems from petitioner Jesse Mendez’s convictions for the attempted murder of Oakland Police Officer Kevin McDonald and for two firearm-related offenses connected to the same crime. Officer McDonald was shot during a traffic stop of the Camaro that Mendez was driving with Mendez’s cousin Jeremiah Dye in the passenger seat.

After unsuccessful direct and collateral appeals in state court, Mendez filed a federal petition for habeas corpus.¹ We review a district court’s denial of habeas relief *de novo*, and we may affirm on any ground supported by the record. *Washington v. Lampert*, 422 F.3d 864, 869 (9th Cir. 2005).

We review Mendez’s petition under the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 (AEDPA). Under AEDPA, we will not grant relief unless his case resulted in a decision that was “contrary to, or involved an unreasonable application of, clearly established Federal law, . . . [or] was based on an unreasonable determination of the facts.” 28 U.S.C. § 2254(d).

Because Mendez’s claims were summarily denied in state court, we “must determine what arguments or theories supported or, as here, could have supported, the state court’s decision; and then [we] must ask whether it is possible fairminded jurists could disagree that those arguments or theories are inconsistent with the holding in a prior decision of [the Supreme] Court.” *Harrington v. Richter*, 562

¹ The district court had jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 2254. We have jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 2253.

U.S. 86, 102 (2011).

1. Mendez claims prosecutors failed to disclose evidence in violation of *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963). Prosecutors did not turn over audio recordings about an anonymous informant who said the shooter was hiding nearby. That tip led police to Dye who was killed by police after a standoff.

To succeed on his claim, Mendez must show that the undisclosed evidence was material—that is, he must show “there is a reasonable probability that, had the evidence been disclosed to the defense, the result of the proceeding would have been different.” *Kyles v. Whitley*, 514 U.S. 419, 433 (1995) (marks and citation omitted). A “reasonable probability” is one sufficient to undermine confidence in the outcome of the trial. *Strickler v. Greene*, 527 U.S. 263, 289–90 (1999).

Mendez argues that the undisclosed recordings were material because they would have led the informant, whose information implied Dye was the shooter, to testify. The record suggests otherwise. The government turned over to the defense the informant’s unregistered phone number. The withheld recordings did not contain additional contact or identifying information. The trial took place three years after the shooting, and every description of the informant emphasized that anonymity was very important to him. Defense counsel tried to contact him but failed, and nothing suggests the recordings would have changed that outcome. Given the cumulative nature of the recordings and other strong evidence of guilt,

see *Banks v. Dretke*, 540 U.S. 668, 700–01 (2004), the California Supreme Court could reasonably have concluded that the prospect of securing the informant’s testimony was not sufficient to undermine confidence in the trial’s outcome, *see Strickler*, 527 U.S. at 289.

Mendez alternatively argues that the content of the recordings would have justified admitting the informant’s statements under a hearsay exception. The record, however, does not indicate the statements were “spontaneous.” *See* Cal. Evid. Code § 1240; *People v. Becerrada*, 393 P.3d 114, 128 (Cal. 2017). The informant reflected, contacted police, and negotiated and was paid a reward. Nor does the record suggest the statements were evidence “b[earing] persuasive assurances of trustworthiness.” *See Chambers v. Mississippi*, 410 U.S. 284, 302 (1973). The informant saw Mendez and Dye flee from more than 1,200 feet away, and he had an incentive to say the man he saw was the shooter. The California Supreme Court could reasonably have concluded that the prospect of admitting the informant’s statements was not sufficient to undermine confidence in the trial’s outcome. *See Strickler*, 527 U.S. at 289.

2. Mendez further claims that under *Napue v. Illinois*, 360 U.S. 264 (1959), his due process rights were violated when the prosecutor allowed Sgt. Tony Jones, the lead investigator, to testify he had no information pointing to any suspect other than Mendez.

Due process prohibits the prosecution from obtaining a conviction by knowingly introducing, soliciting, or allowing false testimony. *Napue*, 360 U.S. at 269. Similar to *Brady* claims, a claim under *Napue* requires the false testimony to have been material. *United States v. Zuno-Arce*, 339 F.3d 886, 889 (9th Cir. 2003). *Napue*'s materiality standard asks whether "there is any reasonable likelihood that the false testimony *could* have affected the judgment of the jury." *Phillips v. Ornoski*, 673 F.3d 1168, 1189 (9th Cir. 2012), *as amended* (May 25, 2012) (marks and citation omitted).

Assuming Sgt. Jones's testimony was false, the defense was still able to argue repeatedly that Dye was a suspect and the actual shooter, and Sgt. Jones himself referred to Dye as a suspect on cross-examination. The California Supreme Court could reasonably have concluded that the testimony was not material. *See id.*

3. Finally, Mendez invokes various claims of ineffective assistance of counsel. We evaluate claims of ineffective assistance of counsel under the familiar standard that requires Mendez to show (1) counsel's performance was deficient to the point that it fell below an objective standard of reasonableness, and (2) counsel's deficient performance prejudiced him. *Strickland v. Washington*, 466 U.S. 668, 687–88 (1984). To show prejudice, Mendez "must demonstrate 'a reasonable probability that, but for counsel's unprofessional errors, the result of the proceeding would have been different.'" *Harrington*, 562 U.S. at 104 (quoting

Strickland, 466 U.S. at 694).

Mendez claims trial counsel was ineffective for failing to impeach Sgt. Jones's "no other suspects" answer, but we have explained that Sgt. Jones's answer was of only arguable significance. The California Supreme Court could reasonably have concluded that counsel's failure to impeach did not prejudice Mendez.

Mendez also claims trial counsel was ineffective for failing to object to a question the jury asked Sgt. Jones. The jury asked if Sgt. Jones ruled out the Camaro's passenger as the shooter, and Sgt. Jones answered, "Yes." An investigator ruling out a suspect differs from an opinion on guilt or innocence, and tends to assist a trier of fact. *See People v. Coffman*, 96 P.3d 30, 90 (Cal. 2004), as modified (Oct. 27, 2004). Mendez fails to show why Sgt. Jones's answer was impermissible, and the California Supreme Court could have reasonably concluded that counsel's failure to object did not prejudice Mendez.

Mendez also argues that his counsel rendered ineffective assistance when he failed to present evidence at trial that Dye was on parole. Mendez reasons that Dye's parole status gave him a more compelling motive than Mendez to shoot Officer McDonald. However, the California Supreme Court could have concluded that there was no reasonable probability of a different outcome if this motive evidence had been presented. Mendez has not shown that parolees who are passengers in cars that commit moving violations are always or regularly searched.

Further, had motive evidence been pursued, it could have drawn more focus to a gun that was found. That was not the gun used to shoot Officer McDonald and evidence suggests Dye discarded it as he fled, which would support the view that Dye was not in fact the shooter. An ineffective assistance of counsel claim will fail if the conduct can be readily explained as reasonable trial strategy. *Murtishaw v. Woodford*, 255 F.3d 926, 951 (9th Cir. 2001).

For Mendez's remaining claims of ineffective assistance of counsel, he either raises them for the first time on appeal or did not fairly present them in state court. Those claims are forfeited, *see Miles v. Ryan*, 713 F.3d 477, 494 n.19 (9th Cir. 2013), unexhausted, *see 28 U.S.C. § 2254(b)*; *Gentry v. Sinclair*, 705 F.3d 884, 901 (9th Cir. 2013), or both, and they are not properly before us.

AFFIRMED.

APPENDIX B

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3
4 JESSE W. MENDEZ,
5 Petitioner,
6 v.
7 GARY SWARTHOUT,
8 Respondent.

9 Case No. [13-cv-02797-EMC](#) (PR)
10
11

12
13 **ORDER DENYING PETITION FOR
14 WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS**

15 **I. INTRODUCTION**

16 Jesse W. Mendez filed this *pro se* action for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C.
17 § 2254. Respondent has filed an answer to the petition and Mr. Mendez has filed a traverse. For
18 the reasons discussed below, the Court denies the petition.

19 **II. BACKGROUND**

20 A. Facts

21 The California Court of Appeal summarized the evidence at trial:

22 **Prosecution's Evidence**

23 **The Shooting**

24 Oakland Police Officer Kevin McDonald testified that, shortly after
25 midnight on May 19, 2007, he was on traffic duty, riding his
26 motorcycle in full uniform, in East Oakland on 77th Avenue near
MacArthur Boulevard. McDonald saw an older style, yellow
Camaro run a stop sign. He followed the Camaro, going northbound
on 77th Avenue and then made a right turn onto MacArthur
Boulevard. McDonald observed two people in the front seat of the
car. He turned on his red light, his flashing lights, and his siren.

27 The Camaro eventually stopped, after making a right turn onto
28 Parker Avenue from east-bound MacArthur. McDonald stopped his
motorcycle behind the Camaro at the intersection of Parker and

1 MacArthur. There were streetlights illuminating the area, including
2 one directly overhead. McDonald got off his motorcycle and was
3 having difficulty attempting to retrieve his flashlight from his duty
4 belt. McDonald also paused to disconnect the wire running from his
5 helmet to the motorcycle's radio.

6 When McDonald approached the Camaro, he saw the driver had
7 turned so that his face was in the open driver's window and he was
8 looking back at McDonald. The street lamp illuminated the driver's
9 face. McDonald could see the silhouette of the passenger, but could
10 not see what the passenger was doing. McDonald continued to
11 watch the driver and fumble for his flashlight as he approached the
12 vehicle. He did not see any movement from the passenger.

13 When McDonald arrived at the driver's door, and before he was able
14 to ask the driver for his license and registration, McDonald heard
15 two gunshots and saw muzzle flash in the driver's lap area. He did
16 not see a hand or the gun. McDonald felt the first bullet strike him in
17 the center of his chest, where it lodged in his protective vest. The
18 second shot went through his left pinkie finger. The passenger was
19 not in McDonald's view when he was shot. But, McDonald testified
20 that he never saw the passenger lean forward, across the driver's
21 body, or into the driver's seat.

22 After McDonald was shot, he began to retreat to the back of the
23 vehicle, to put the vehicle between himself and the shooter. The
24 driver was still looking out of the vehicle, but McDonald could not
25 tell what the passenger was doing. McDonald testified: "It looked
26 like the driver was raising his [right] arm up with the gun as I was
27 retreating." McDonald heard two more shots fired and turned to
28 duck. McDonald pulled out his service weapon, but by that time the
Camaro was fleeing southbound down Parker. Eventually,
McDonald lost sight of the Camaro.

McDonald radioed for help. He said he had been shot by a white
male and gave a description of the Camaro and the direction it had
headed. After other officers responded to the scene, an ambulance
arrived and transported McDonald to the hospital. As a result of the
shooting, McDonald suffered internal and external bruising to his
chest and nerve damage to his hand. He continues to experience pain
and suffers occasional nightmares. He was off work for three
months after the shooting.

At trial, McDonald identified Mendez as the driver of the Camaro
and the person who shot him. He also indicated that Mendez wore
his hair in corn rows at the time of the shooting. He also testified
that all of the shots fired came from the driver's side window and
that none of the shots fired came from anywhere else in the vehicle.
McDonald testified: "The only one that could have had a shot is the
driver. If the passenger was leaning forward in order to get that shot,
I would have seen that." McDonald was asked: "[A]re you certain
that Mendez is the person who shot you?" He responded: "Yes, I
am."

The Police Investigation

Oakland Police Officer Kevin Reynolds was also on traffic duty on May 19, 2007, in the vicinity of 77th Avenue and MacArthur Boulevard. Reynolds did not witness the shooting, but heard a series of two to three gunshots, a pause, and then another two to three gunshots coming from the area where he had seen McDonald make a traffic stop. Reynolds responded to the scene and found McDonald on the ground, just north of his motorcycle. McDonald told Reynolds that the shooter was "a male white driving a '70's Chevy Camaro that was yellow [and] in poor condition...." McDonald advised Reynolds that the Camaro went south on Parker. Reynolds passed this information along to other officers in the area. Officers canvassed witnesses and set up a perimeter to contain the scene and the suspect.

An evidence technician also responded to the scene of the shooting, but recovered no bullet casings. One bullet slug was located on the sidewalk on the east side of Parker, next to the house at 7851 MacArthur Boulevard. A fragment of a bullet was found on the north side of MacArthur, to the east of Parker, in a gutter. A bullet hole was located in an exterior panel of a house at 7850 MacArthur, on the north side of MacArthur. A bullet was found inside the house. Another bullet slug was located inside the trauma plate of McDonald's protective vest.⁴

Footnote 4: Another officer, who had previously spoken with McDonald, told the technician that “when [McDonald] approached the vehicle the driver of the vehicle reached over his shoulder and shot four times.

An unoccupied vehicle matching McDonald's description was found two blocks south of the shooting scene, at Garfield and Parker. Mendez's identification card was found inside the glove compartment and turned over to Officer Pope. Four bullet casings were found on the driver's side of the car—three were found on the driver's side floorboard and another was found in the left-front door well.

A firearms expert examined the bullet fragments found at the scene and determined that they were all fired from the same gun. He also examined the casings and determined that they were all fired from the same gun. All of the bullets and casings were nine-millimeter and could not have been fired from a .22-caliber revolver. He determined that a Lorcin semi-automatic pistol was likely the firearm used. Casings are ejected from the right on such a gun. How the gun is held will, of course, impact where the casings end up. 2635 Parker was 1,237 feet from the scene of the shooting and close to the Garfield intersection.

Sergeant Barry Hofmann showed Mendez's identification card to McDonald at the hospital. Hofmann testified that McDonald looked at the card and said " 'Yeah, that's the guy.' " Hofmann then broadcast Mendez's name over the radio and gave a physical description, including the fact that he had long brown hair. McDonald did not recall being shown any other photographs of Mendez while he was at the hospital.

Oakland Police Sergeant Tony Jones testified that he was the primary investigator on the case. On May 19, 2007, between 4 and 5 a.m., Jones received information "that the officers had an informant, a citizen-informant, which essentially is a citizen who wants to remain anonymous but they want to give information, that saw the suspect hide underneath 2635 [Parker] after the shooting."⁵

Footnote 5: Jones did not have a name for the informant, but did receive a .22 caliber revolver from him. Jones testified: "He was given my number by Sergeant Wingate and he called me. . . . I figured if we ever needed him, Wingate could just call him. But the person didn't want to get involved. There isn't much I could do if a person doesn't want to get involved like that."

Police located Jeremiah Dye under the house. Dye was ultimately shot and killed by an Oakland police officer. [Footnote omitted.] Dye had long hair that was slicked back on the sides and pulled back in a ponytail. Jones could not remember whether a gunshot residue test taken from Dye had been analyzed.

Jones testified that, at the time the informant's report was received, he already had Mendez's name from the identification found in the car. Although Mendez was identified as the suspect on May 19, he was not arrested until approximately two weeks later, in Sacramento. Mendez's head had been shaved.

On direct examination by the prosecutor, Jones was asked: “[I]n this particular case did you receive any information or leads that pointed to anyone else as the suspect in this case other than Mendez?” He was also asked “And are you aware of any physical evidence that points in any direction other than to Mendez as a suspect in this case?” Jones responded “No” to both questions.

Independent Identification

Tomeka Harper testified that, on May 19, 2007, a little after midnight, she was driving on Parker towards MacArthur. When she stopped at the intersection she saw a police officer on a motorcycle pulling over a yellow Camaro. She saw two people in the front seat of the car. She described the driver as follows: "He lookeded [sic] like he was mixed. It looked like he had long hair. It was pulled back in a ponytail, and he had on like a ... gray, black and white like camouflage jacket."⁷ Harper said the driver was not wearing his hair in dreadlocks or corn rows but rather, had it "slicked back" [on] the side of his head. At trial, Harper identified Mendez as the driver of the Camaro. She remembered the intersection being well-lit. She had not been drinking that night and was paying close attention because she "was being nosy."

Footnote 7: A black, white, and gray sweatshirt was found in the Camaro.

After Harper turned right onto MacArthur, she lost sight of the Camaro and the officer. She stopped at a liquor store about a block away and then heard gunshots. She drove her car back to Parker and

1 MacArthur, parked her car, and gave a statement to police. Later,
 2 Harper was driven by police to the Camaro parked on Garfield. She
 3 identified it as the same car she saw the officer stop. She also
 4 identified Mendez, as the driver of the Camaro, from a photographic
 5 lineup. She did not see the passenger as well, but testified that he
 6 may have been wearing a white t-shirt and “could have been mixed
 7 race or white.”

8 **Testimony of Andre Stovall**

9 Andre Stovall testified that he has known Mendez for “some years.”
 10 He said that during the late evening of May 18, 2007, and early
 11 morning of May 19, 2007, Stovall was drinking with friends around
 12 72nd Avenue. Mendez arrived, in “an older model car ... [¶] ...
 13 [¶][w]ith some Mexican dude” who may have been Mendez’s
 14 cousin. Both Mendez and his cousin wore their hair slicked back and
 15 in ponytails. They all were “hanging out” and drinking “most likely
 16 tequila.”

17 Stovall testified: “I had a gun and I showed it to [Mendez], you feel
 18 me? And his cousin, or whoever he was, had one and he showed it
 19 to me.... I looked at it and gave it back to him and he gave it back to
 20 his cousin.” Stovall saw Mendez the next day. Mendez looked like
 21 he had his hair cut since Stovall saw him the night before. Mendez
 22 asked to use Stovall’s phone and Stovall let him.

23 Stovall did not remember Mendez saying anything about shooting at
 24 police. Stovall conceded, however, that he had previously given a
 25 taped statement to police, on May 30, 2007. He testified, however,
 26 that he did not remember what he had told police. Stovall’s taped
 27 police statement was played for the jury. On that taped statement,
 28 Stovall said Mendez was with the group on 72nd Avenue the
 evening before the shooting. Stovall saw someone hand a gun back
 to Mendez. Stovall said: “We was talkin’ ‘bout was [Mendez] really
 Caucasian. He a light Mexican.” They said “that [Mendez] was a
 white boy. And he don’t ever get pullt [sic] over by the police cuz
 he a white boy.” In response, Mendez said: “he’ud [sic] get down—
 he said ... he’ud [sic] shoot if the police pullt [sic] him over.”
 Stovall also told police that when he saw Mendez the following day,
 Mendez’s hair was cut and Mendez said “he got pullt [sic] over and
 he shot at the police.”

On cross-examination, Stovall testified that he only made the above
 statement to police after they threatened to make a negative report to
 his parole officer. Stovall said: “I told [the police] some stuff they
 wanted to hear because I wanted to go home.” Stovall testified that
 Mendez never said he had shot a police officer. However, he did not
 lie about Mendez getting a haircut.

Stovall conceded that it was not good to be known as a snitch in his
 neighborhood.

Defense Evidence

Joel Gay testified that he grew up in the same neighborhood as
 Mendez. On May 18, 2007, Gay had been on 72nd Avenue drinking

1 and smoking marijuana with others. At one point, Mendez arrived
2 and drank with the group. Gay testified that, after the shooting,
3 about 20 Oakland police officers came to his house, handcuffed him,
4 and took him in for questioning. Gay testified that he was threatened
5 and coerced by police to make incriminating statements about
6 Mendez. He said that the officers took three different statements
from him, but only recorded the last one. Gay said that he first told
officers that he had never seen Mendez with a gun because that was
the truth. But, Gay said: “I was directly told to say that I saw Jesse
with a gun.” At trial, Gay said that Mendez never told him that he
had shot an officer. Gay filed an internal affairs complaint regarding
Sergeant Longmire.

7 On cross-examination, Gay testified that Mendez came by his house
8 the day after the shooting. Mendez told Gay: “Man, I'm kind of hot,
9 man. I need you to do something for me. [¶] ... [¶] Let me get some
10 money.” Gay did not ask Mendez what he meant. But, he did give
11 him “enough [money] to get a room.” The prosecutor also played
12 Gay's taped police statement for the jury. During the taped
13 statement, Gay told officers that he had seen Mendez the night of the
14 shooting, that Mendez had a gun, and that Mendez said he was
15 going to shoot if he was pulled over by police. Gay also told police
16 that Mendez came to his house the next day and said: “‘Soon as I
17 got to 77th and Mac, a motorcycle come, whoooop! I pulled over—
18 license and reg—PAH PAH PAH PAH POP.’”

19 Oakland Police Officer Lesa Leonis testified that she was on patrol,
20 on May 19, 2007, and responded to Garfield and Parker. She
21 testified that Officer Pope gave her a wallet-sized photograph of a
22 male adult and a child. She and Officer Jiminez took the photo to the
23 hospital and showed it to McDonald. McDonald was “unsure”
whether the photograph showed the shooter. Leonis testified that she
24 did not recognize anyone in court that was in the photograph. She
25 remembered only that it showed a “light complected” male. She was
26 not sure what happened to the photograph.⁸

27 Footnote 8: Jones did not recall ever seeing a photo of
28 Mendez with a small child.

29 Officer John Fukuda and Officer Jamin Creed both testified that
30 they responded to 2635 Parker, on May 19, 2007. While he was at
31 2635 Parker, Fukuda heard someone yell “Oakland police, show me
32 your hands,” and then, within a matter of seconds, Fukuda heard a
33 gunshot. Creed took a gunshot residue test sample from the body of
34 Mr. Dye.

35 Sergeant James Rullamas was Jones's partner in the investigation of
36 the shooting of McDonald. At approximately 5:00 a.m. on May 19,
37 2007, he responded to the 2600 block of Parker because of a report
38 that “the suspect was in custody.” When he arrived “the suspect
39 [was] still on the ground” but was deceased. Jones was also present.
40 Rullamas thought Dye's appearance was similar to the appearance of
41 Mendez in a photograph.

42 The parties stipulated that Mendez had suffered a felony conviction
43 in 1999.

1
Closing Arguments

2 In his closing argument, Mendez's trial counsel conceded that
3 Mendez was driving the Camaro, but argued that the People had not
4 proved, beyond a reasonable doubt, that he was the shooter. In
5 support, Mendez's trial counsel pointed to the missing photograph of
6 a man with a small child, the lighting conditions at the scene of the
7 shooting, McDonald's preoccupation with his flashlight, and the
8 physical location of the bullets and casings—in the hopes of
9 discrediting McDonald's testimony and pointing the finger at the
10 passenger. Mendez's trial counsel also argued, without objection:
11 “[S]omeone said that they had seen the shooter exit the vehicle
12 down on Parker. This is an anonymous informant.... [H]e also
13 observed that person go underneath a house at 2635 Parker Avenue.
14 And of course this raises the next major question in this case, and
15 that is the obvious question, is the shooter under that house? Yes, he
16 was. That was Mr. Dye.” In rebuttal, the prosecutor responded:
17 “Who came in here and said the dead guy under the house was even
18 in the car? Not one person.”

19 *People v. Mendez*, 2011 WL 6396513, at *1-6 (Cal. Ct. App. Dec. 21, 2011) (footnotes omitted).

20 B. Procedural History

21 Mr. Mendez was convicted in Alameda County Superior Court of attempted murder of a
22 peace officer, possession of a firearm by a felon, and discharging a weapon from a motor vehicle.
23 Sentence enhancement allegations for personal and intentional discharge of a firearm were found
24 true. On March 29, 2010, Mr. Mendez was sentenced to a term of life with the possibility of
25 parole, plus 23 years in prison.

26 He appealed and sought habeas relief in the state courts. The California Court of Appeal
27 affirmed his conviction and denied his petition for writ of habeas corpus. Docket Nos. 19-3 and
28 19-6. The California Supreme Court summarily denied review on March 21, 2012, and summarily
denied Mr. Mendez's petition for writ for habeas corpus on April 30, 2014. *See* Docket Nos. 19-
12.

29 Mr. Mendez filed this action for a writ of habeas corpus. He alleged the following claims
30 in his amended petition: (1) his Sixth Amendment right to confrontation was violated when the
31 court sustained an objection to a defense cross-examination question for sergeant Jones about an
32 unidentified witness; (2) Mr. Mendez's Sixth Amendment right to confrontation was violated
33 when the court excluded as hearsay a statement by sergeant Jones on a recording shown to the
34 court.

1 jury; (3) the prosecutor's failure to correct sergeant Jones' false testimony violated Mr. Mendez's
2 Fourteenth Amendment right to a fair trial; (4) Mr. Mendez's Fourteenth Amendment right to due
3 process was violated by the suppression of material evidence; (5) Mr. Mendez was denied his
4 Sixth Amendment right to the effective assistance of counsel; and (6) the denial of a defense
5 request for a continuance violated his federal constitutional rights to due process and compulsory
6 process.

7 **III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

8 This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action for a writ of habeas corpus under
9 28 U.S.C. § 2254. 28 U.S.C. § 1331. This action is in the proper venue because the petition
10 concerns the conviction and sentence of a person convicted in Alameda County, California, which
11 is within this judicial district. 28 U.S.C. §§ 84, 2241(d).

12 **IV. STANDARD OF REVIEW**

13 This Court may entertain a petition for writ of habeas corpus "in behalf of a person in
14 custody pursuant to the judgment of a State court only on the ground that he is in custody in
15 violation of the Constitution or laws or treaties of the United States." 28 U.S.C. § 2254(a).

16 The Antiterrorism And Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 ("AEDPA") amended § 2254
17 to impose new restrictions on federal habeas review. A petition may not be granted with respect to
18 any claim that was adjudicated on the merits in state court unless the state court's adjudication of
19 the claim: "(1) resulted in a decision that was contrary to, or involved an unreasonable application
20 of, clearly established Federal law, as determined by the Supreme Court of the United States; or
21 (2) resulted in a decision that was based on an unreasonable determination of the facts in light of
22 the evidence presented in the State court proceeding." 28 U.S.C. § 2254(d).

23 "Under the 'contrary to' clause, a federal habeas court may grant the writ if the state court
24 arrives at a conclusion opposite to that reached by [the Supreme] Court on a question of law or if
25 the state court decides a case differently than [the] Court has on a set of materially indistinguish-
26 able facts." *Williams (Terry) v. Taylor*, 529 U.S. 362, 412-13 (2000).

27 "Under the 'unreasonable application' clause, a federal habeas court may grant the writ if
28 the state court identifies the correct governing legal principle from [the Supreme] Court's

1 decisions but unreasonably applies that principle to the facts of the prisoner's case." *Id.* at 413.
2 "[A] federal habeas court may not issue the writ simply because that court concludes in its
3 independent judgment that the relevant state-court decision applied clearly established federal law
4 erroneously or incorrectly. Rather, that application must also be unreasonable." *Id.* at 411. "A
5 federal habeas court making the 'unreasonable application' inquiry should ask whether the state
6 court's application of clearly established federal law was 'objectively unreasonable.'" *Id.* at 409.

7 **V. DISCUSSION**

8 A. The Citizen-Informant

9 Most of Mr. Mendez's claims are based on statements made by a citizen-informant who
10 wanted to remain anonymous. Before turning to the habeas claims, some information about the
11 citizen-informant is helpful.

12 Shortly after officer McDonald was shot, a citizen-informant called the police to provide
13 information about the criminal episode. The citizen-informant did not provide his name, but did
14 provide a cell number at which he could be reached. The citizen-informant arranged to meet with
15 officers at a particular location; when officers went to that location, they could not find the citizen-
16 informant and left without speaking to him. The citizen-informant called the police a second time,
17 and made arrangements to meet with the police at a different location. Several officers went to
18 meet him. The citizen-informant did not want to give his name and did not want to be involved
19 with the investigation. When he met with the officers, the citizen-informant told them that he had
20 seen the shooting and saw the shooter exit the car to hide under the house at 2635 Parker Avenue.
21 That house was 1,237 feet (i.e., more than four football fields in length) from the scene of the
22 shooting. The citizen-informant discussed a reward with the officers before providing the
23 information. The information provided to the defense before trial was that no reward was agreed
24 upon or paid; several years after trial the prosecutor disclosed during state habeas proceedings that
25 a \$5,000 reward had been paid to the informant.

26 The officers acted on the tip, surrounded the house at 2635 Parker, found Mr. Dye hiding
27 under the house, and eventually one of the officers shot and killed Mr. Dye. Mr. Dye was shot
28 within a few hours after officer McDonald was shot at 12:17 a.m.

1 The citizen-informant was given a phone number for sergeant Jones, the lead investigator
2 on the officer McDonald shooting.¹ The citizen-informant made contact with sergeant Jones the
3 next day and arranged to deliver a gun to him. Sergeant Jones took an undercover car and met the
4 citizen-informant on the street, where the informant gave him a gun that he allegedly had retrieved
5 from the area where the shooter had hidden. That gun turned out not to be the weapon from which
6 the shots were fired at officer McDonald; apparently, the gun that fired the shots at officer
7 McDonald was never recovered.

8 The identity of the citizen-informant remains unknown to the police and the defense.
9 During discovery in state habeas proceedings, Mr. Mendez learned that a \$5,000 reward had been
10 paid to the citizen-informant (who remained anonymous), and the Oakland Police Department had
11 no record of the name of the citizen-informant to whom the reward had been paid.

12 Defense counsel tried mightily to get before the jury the information that the citizen-
13 informant had seen both the shooting and the shooter hide beneath the house. Although the jury
14 heard that Dye was a suspect and was found beneath the house, no evidence was admitted that the
15 citizen-informant had seen the entire incident and saw the shooter hide under the house.

16 B. Confrontation Clause Claims

17 1. Background

18 Two particular portions of sergeant Jones' testimony form the basis for Mr. Mendez's
19 Confrontation Clause claims. The first portion is an exchange that occurred during the
20 prosecutor's questioning of sergeant Jones, the lead investigator:

21 Q: Okay. Now, Sergeant, in this particular case did you receive any
22 information or leads that pointed to anyone else as the suspect in this
case other than Mr. Mendez?

23 A: No.

24 RT 664. During cross-examination, defense counsel tried to elicit other-suspect information from
25 sergeant Jones, but was unable to do so successfully:
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28 ¹ Sergeant Jones testified that there were two separate investigations: one for the shooting
of officer McDonald, and another for the officer-involved shooting of Mr. Dye.

1 Q [BY DEFENSE COUNSEL]: Okay. And the information that
2 you had that you acted upon when you -- strike that -- that the
3 officers acted upon when they went to 2635 Parker Avenue was that
4 of the observations of the person who indicated he had seen the
5 shooting; is that correct?

6 A: Yes.

7 Q: And that person had advised the investigating officers that he
8 had actually seen the person who had done the shooting go
9 underneath that house?

10 MR. JAMES [PROSECUTOR]: I'm going to object as hearsay.

11 THE COURT: Sustained.

12 [DEFENSE COUNSEL]: Your Honor, it shows that the police
13 acted upon it as a result of that information. It shows why they did
14 what they did.

15 THE COURT: Sustained, counsel.

16 RT 708. Defense counsel then moved on to other topics of cross-examination.

17 The second portion of the examination of sergeant Jones that gives rise to a Confrontation
18 Clause claim is the trial court's redaction of one sentence uttered by sergeant Jones on a DVD that
19 was created as part of the investigation into the shooting of Mr. Dye. The trial court "noted that it
20 was particularly concerned with the following statement, by Jones, on the DVD: 'I'm told we
21 were—the officers were led to this location by a witness that seen the entire incident and saw the
22 suspect hide underneath this house here.'" *Mendez*, at *8. The following discussion occurred
23 outside the presence of the jury:

24 [DEFENSE COUNSEL]: Actually, this is just a statement of what
25 had been given to Jones by others there, and it goes to his, meaning
26 Sergeant Jones's, state of mind in the course of this investigation as
27 to the facts and circumstances of what was going on. And even if it
28 is hearsay, [the] state of mind exception should resolve that. And
29 also the fact that it's part of his investigation process as well as . . . if
30 this is hearsay, all of this has actually been testified to by some
31 witnesses in this case.

32 THE COURT: Well, I understand that witnesses may have testified
33 to a lot of this stuff, but it's still hearsay. Why is his state of mind
34 relevant?

35 [DEFENSE COUNSEL]: It's relevant as far as what he was doing by
36 way of his investigation of the case."

37 RT 956-57. The trial court ordered Jones' statement redacted before the DVD was played for the
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1 jury.

2 2. State Court Rejection Of Evidence Code And Confrontation Clause Claims

3 Mr. Mendez argued on appeal that, by sustaining the hearsay objection and redacting the
4 sentence from the recording, the trial court violated his state law and Confrontation Clause rights
5 to present to the jury evidence that the informant had said he saw the shooting and saw the shooter
6 hide under the house. The California Court of Appeal rejected the arguments that the exclusion of
7 the evidence was error under the California Evidence Code and that the exclusion of the evidence
8 violated Mr. Mendez's rights under the Sixth Amendment Confrontation Clause.

9 Mr. Mendez conceded on appeal "that the out-of-court statements were not admissible for
10 their implied truth, i.e., that the person found under the house on Parker Avenue (Dye) was the
11 person who shot McDonald," and instead had argued that the statements were offered for the
12 nonhearsay purpose of contradicting sergeant Jones' direct testimony to prove sergeant Jones'
13 knowledge about information about other suspects. *Mendez*, at *8. The state court of appeal was
14 concerned that the evidence was "double or even triple hearsay" because Jones was being asked to
15 testify to what the officers told him that the citizen-informant told them.

16 Focusing on the citizen-informant's statement to the police, the California Court of Appeal
17 explained that a hearsay objection to an out-of-court statement may not be overcome merely by
18 identifying a nonhearsay purpose; that nonhearsay purpose must be relevant to an issue in dispute
19 to overcome the hearsay objection. *Id.* The nonhearsay purpose identified at trial -- i.e., to show
20 why the police "did what they did" -- was irrelevant; "[t]here were no disputed issues with respect
21 to why police responded to 2635 Parker." *Id.* Mr. Mendez's new theory on appeal -- that the
22 evidence was admissible for the nonhearsay purpose of impeaching Jones' testimony that there
23 was no evidence or leads pointing to a suspect other than Mr. Mendez -- fared no better because
24 the argument had not been made at trial and, even if the argument had been made at trial, defense
25 counsel "did not make an adequate record that the out-of-court statement would, in fact, have
26 impeachment value." *Id.*

27 The Court of Appeal also found that any assumed error was harmless. "[E]ven if we
28 assume that the informant's out-of-court statement was as favorable as Mendez suggests and that

1 exclusion was error, there is no possibility that the trial court's evidentiary ruling prejudiced
2 Mendez, regardless of whether error is judged under the state standard for erroneous evidentiary
3 rulings, . . . or, as Mendez argues, under the standard required in assessing federal constitutional
4 error. (*Chapman v. California* (1967) 386 U.S. 18, 24; *Delaware v. Van Arsdall, supra*, 475 U.S.
5 at p. 684.)" *Mendez*, at *10.

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Reversal might be required if Mendez could establish some basis for admitting the informant's statement for the truth of the matter asserted. But, it is undisputed that the informant's out-of-court statement could not have been admitted for its truth. Thus, there is no way that any error in excluding the evidence for a limited purpose forestalled Mendez from presenting a defense. Jones did not witness the shooting. Jones's role, as the primary homicide investigator, was merely to summarize the evidence collected in the case. In addition to Jones's testimony that he was not aware of any evidence or leads pointing to a suspect other than Mendez, the jury also was presented with strong direct and circumstantial evidence that Mendez was the shooter.

Mendez did not testify or present other direct evidence that Dye was the shooter. Instead, he asked the jury to speculate, from the lighting conditions, Officer McDonald's preoccupation with his flashlight, the fact that the passenger was, at times, out of Officer McDonald's view, the missing photograph, the location of the bullets and casings, and the unanalyzed gunshot residue kit that such was the case. Moreover, Jones's partner in the investigation, Rullamas, was called as a witness by the defense and testified, without objection, that Dye was a "suspect" in the shooting of Officer McDonald, and defense counsel was allowed to argue, without objection, that the anonymous informant actually saw the shooting, and saw the alleged shooter (inferentially Dye) go under the house on Parker Avenue. Even assuming that Dye was the passenger in the Camaro, we do not view this as a close case. Officer McDonald himself testified that he was certain that Mendez was the shooter. Officer McDonald said that he saw the driver raise the gun as he retreated and never saw the passenger lean into the driver's seat. Another witness independently identified Mendez as the driver of the Camaro. Mendez's identification card was found inside the Camaro, where all of the casings were found on the driver's side. The firearms expert testified that none of the recovered bullets and casings could have been fired from the .22-caliber revolver obtained from the anonymous informant. Finally, it was undisputed that Mendez left the area and cut his hair after the shooting. There is no reasonable likelihood that the jury would have rejected all of this evidence if the out-of-court statements had been admitted for the limited purpose of impeaching Jones.

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Mendez, at *10.

1 3. Analysis

2 The Confrontation Clause guarantees an opportunity for effective cross-examination, not
3 cross-examination that is effective in whatever way, and to whatever extent, the defense might
4 wish. *Delaware v. Fensterer*, 474 U.S. 15, 20 (1985). Trial judges retain wide latitude to impose
5 reasonable limits on cross-examinations based on concerns about, among other things,
6 “harassment, prejudice, confusion of the issues, the witness’ safety, or interrogation that is
7 repetitive or only marginally relevant.” *Delaware v. Van Arsdall*, 475 U.S. 673, 679 (1986). A
8 defendant “can prove a violation of his Sixth Amendment rights by ‘showing that he was
9 prohibited from engaging in otherwise appropriate cross-examination designed to show a
10 prototypical form of bias on the part of the witness, and thereby ‘to expose to the jury the facts
11 from which jurors . . . could appropriately draw inferences relating to the reliability of the
12 witness.’” *Holley v. Yarborough*, 568 F.3d 1091, 1098 (9th Cir. 2009) (omission in original)
13 (quoting *Van Arsdall*, 475 U.S. at 680). A showing of constitutional error under the Confrontation
14 Clause only merits habeas relief if the error was prejudicial, that is, if it had a “substantial and
15 injurious effect or influence in determining the jury’s verdict.” *Id.* at 1100 (9th Cir. 2009)
16 (quoting *Brecht v. Abrahamson*, 507 U.S. 619, 637 (1993)).

17 The California Court of Appeal correctly identified *Van Arsdall*, 475 U.S. 673), as
18 providing the governing law on the Confrontation Clause claim, and quoted the relevant portions
19 of the *Van Arsdall* case, including the *Chapman* harmless error analysis, to apply to such a claim.
20 *Mendez*, at *7; see *Van Arsdall*, 475 U.S. at 684 (citing *Chapman v. California*, 386 U.S. 18, 22
21 (1967)). The state appellate court reasonably applied *Van Arsdall*.

22 The California Court of Appeal’s determination that there was neither a Confrontation
23 Clause nor California Evidence Code violation because the evidence was properly excluded due to
24 its minimal or nonexistent relevance was not an unreasonable application of *Van Arsdall*, which
25 itself accords trial judges “wide latitude” to impose reasonable limits on cross-examination based
26 on concerns about questioning “that is repetitive or only marginally relevant.” *Van Arsdall*, 475
27 U.S. at 679; see, e.g., *Plascencia v. Alameida*, 467 F.3d 1190, 1201 (9th Cir. 2006) (exclusion of
28 cross-examination that would have provided cumulative or repetitive evidence did not violate

1 Confrontation Clause or was harmless error); *United States v. Sua*, 307 F.3d 1150, 1153 (9th Cir.
2 2002) (Confrontation Clause not violated by exclusion of codefendant's guilty plea with dismissal
3 of a charge when offered by defendant to establish government's belief in the codefendant's
4 innocence (and, by inference, in defendant's innocence) based on dismissal of that charge because
5 potential jury confusion and undue delay outweighed defendant's interest in presenting the
6 marginally relevant evidence); *Bright v. Shimoda*, 819 F.2d 227, 229-30 (9th Cir. 1987) (no
7 constitutional violation where substantial cross-examination permitted and excluded evidence was
8 of collateral nature); *Batchelor v. Cupp*, 693 F.2d 859, 865 (9th Cir. 1982) (Confrontation Clause
9 satisfied where trial judge restricted cross-examination of key witnesses as to drug use where
10 evidence of such use was already before jury). Evidence about sergeant Jones' state of mind was
11 not relevant, or was at most only marginally relevant, to any issue properly in dispute at Mr.
12 Mendez's trial.

13 Mr. Mendez's real interest was in getting the jury to hear that a witness said he saw the
14 shooting and saw the shooter hide under the house because that would suggest that Mr. Dye rather
15 than Mr. Mendez was the shooter. Mr. Mendez's efforts to conjure up nonhearsay purposes to get
16 that information before the jury do not overcome the hearsay problem in that evidence because, as
17 the California Court of Appeal explained, it is not enough to articulate a nonhearsay purpose when
18 that nonhearsay purpose is not relevant. This is not a case where, *e.g.*, the trial court excluded
19 non-hearsay direct testimony of a witness who would have provided exculpatory testimony. The
20 testimony sought here from sergeant Jones was instead double hearsay.

21 The defense was allowed to cross-examine sergeant Jones extensively (*see* RT 665-88,
22 692-715, 720-28) and even called him as a witness for the defense (*see* RT 962-71). Defense
23 counsel cross-examined sergeant Jones about the scene where the shooting of officer McDonald
24 took place, police activities at the house on Parker Avenue, and the course of the investigation.
25 The cross-examination of sergeant Jones by defense counsel covered Mr. Dye and the informant,
26 even if sergeant Jones did not relay that the informant said he had seen Dye shoot officer
27 McDonald. Sergeant Jones agreed with the statement that he had "received some information
28 from some officers who provided [him] some information given by citizen-informants." RT 676.

1 Sergeant Jones further testified: “The information that I received was that the officers had an
2 informant, a citizen-informant, which essentially is a citizen who wants to remain anonymous but
3 they want to give information, that saw the suspect hide underneath 2635 after the shooting.” RT
4 676-77. Sergeant Jones also testified that he learned that a possible suspect was under the house at
5 2635 Parker between 4:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. RT 679. Sergeant Jones also testified that he “had
6 information that sergeant Wingate, who was in charge of the Target Enforcement Task Force, was
7 working with someone and had information, but I didn’t get the specifics because I had witnesses
8 and people downtown that I needed to talk to.” RT 679. Sergeant Jones further testified that he
9 received a weapon from the informant the next day: “The same person who had reported to
10 Wingate that they had saw the person go under the house, I met that person. I was in an
11 undercover car. I pulled up on the person and the person handed me a plastic bag with a revolver
12 in it.” RT 680; *see also* RT 681-82 (on May 20, sergeant Jones obtained the weapon from “[t]he
13 person who was providing information to sergeant Wingate and his officers throughout this
14 incident”); *see also* RT 684 (“That’s what I said earlier, we had an officer involved shooting. The
15 suspect was underneath the house”). The defense showed a videotape of sergeant Jones at 2635
16 Parker after the shooting. RT 962.

17 The California Court of Appeal also determined that the exclusion of the evidence, if error,
18 was harmless under the “state standard for erroneous evidentiary rulings” and under the *Chapman*
19 standard for assessing federal constitutional error. *Mendez*, at *10. Because the state appellate
20 court rejected the claim under the *Chapman* standard, this Court “may not award habeas relief
21 under § 2254 unless the harmlessness determination itself was unreasonable.” *Davis v. Ayala*, 135
22 S. Ct. 2187, 2199 (2015) (quoting *Fry v. Pliler*, 551 U.S. 112, 121-22 (2007)). “And a state-court
23 decision is not unreasonable if ‘fairminded jurists could disagree’ on [its] correctness.” *Id.*
24 (alteration in original).

25 The California Court of Appeal’s determination that any Confrontation Clause error was
26 harmless was not unreasonable. As the state appellate court explained, sergeant Jones did not
27 witness the shooting and was merely summarizing the evidence collected. There also was “strong
28 direct and circumstantial evidence that Mendez was the shooter.” *Mendez*, at *10. Officer

1 McDonald was certain that he was shot by the driver, had seen the driver raise his arm with the
2 gun in it after the first two shots, and was firm in his identification of Mr. Mendez as the driver
3 and as the shooter. Mr. Mendez had not testified or presented other direct evidence that Mr. Dye
4 was the shooter, and asked the jury to speculate from various circumstances that Mr. Dye was the
5 shooter. Further, evidence *was* admitted that Mr. Dye was a suspect in the shooting and had been
6 shot under the house on Parker Avenue. Defense counsel was able to argue that the citizen-
7 informant saw the shooting and saw the shooter hide under the house on Parker Avenue. Mr.
8 Mendez is not entitled to relief on his Confrontation Clause claims because the state appellate
9 court's determination that there was no error and any assumed error would have been harmless
10 was not contrary to, or an unreasonable application of, any holding of the U.S. Supreme Court.

11 C. Napue Claim

12 1. Background

13 Mr. Mendez contends that his right to due process was violated because sergeant Jones
14 provided false testimony and the prosecutor allowed it to go uncorrected. The following
15 testimony, which is part of the same evidence that gave rise to the Confrontation Clause claims
16 discussed above, forms the basis for the *Napue* claim:

17 "Q: Okay. Now, Sergeant, in this particular case did you receive
18 any information or leads that pointed to anyone else as the suspect in
19 this case other than Mr. Mendez?"

20 A: No.

21 RT 664. Mr. Mendez argues that the statement "was undeniably false" because sergeant Jones had
22 testified at the preliminary hearing that sergeant Wingate had told him that the citizen-informant
23 had told sergeant Wingate that the witness had seen officer McDonald get shot, and had seen the
24 person who had shot him go into the yard where officers found Mr. Dye under the house. Docket
25 No. 7 at 29. Mr. Mendez argues that the problem was exacerbated when, on cross-examination,
26 defense counsel tried to rectify the false testimony by asking sergeant Jones, "[a]nd that person
27 had advised the investigating officers that he had actually seen the person who had done the
28 shooting go underneath the house?" but the sergeant did not answer because the prosecutor

1 interposed a successful hearsay objection. RT 708; *see* Docket No. 7 at 30. Mr. Mendez points
2 out that the prosecutor argued repeatedly in rebuttal that there was no evidence whatsoever that
3 anybody but petitioner fired the shots at Officer McDonald. Docket No. 7 at 32-33 (citing RT
4 1120, 1121, 1125-26).

5 The California Supreme Court rejected the *Napue* claim on the merits in a summary denial
6 of Mr. Mendez's habeas petition. There is no reasoned decision from the state court on the *Napue*
7 claim. The California Court of Appeal did discuss sergeant Jones' testimony, *see* Section B.2,
8 above, but did so in an analysis of claims that the trial court had erred in excluding the evidence on
9 hearsay grounds and in violation of Mr. Mendez's Confrontation Clause rights. The *Napue* claim
10 was not presented to or decided by the California Court of Appeal. This Court therefore applies §
11 2254(d) to the California Supreme Court's summary rejection of the *Napue* claim.

12 This Court "must determine what arguments or theories supported or . . . could have
13 supported, the state court's decision; and then it must ask whether it is possible fairminded jurists
14 could disagree that those arguments or theories are inconsistent with the holding a prior decision
15 of [the U.S. Supreme] Court." *Harrington v. Richter*, 562 U.S. 86, 102 (2011).

16 2. Analysis

17 A fundamental principle guiding the conduct of the prosecutor, as the representative of a
18 sovereign in this country, is "not that it shall win a case, but that justice shall be done." *Berger v.*
19 *United States*, 295 U.S. 78, 88 (1935). From this principle flow the rules that the prosecutor may
20 not hide evidence and may not let false evidence go uncorrected at trial. *Cf. Strickler v. Greene*,
21 527 U.S. 263, 280-82 (1999). When a prosecutor obtains a conviction by the use of testimony
22 which he knows or should know is perjured, the conviction must be set aside if there is any
23 reasonable likelihood that the testimony could have affected the judgment of the jury. *See United*
24 *States v. Agurs*, 427 U.S. 97, 103 (1976); *Napue v. Illinois*, 360 U.S. 264, 269 (1959) (same result
25 obtains when State, although not soliciting false evidence, allows it to go uncorrected when it
26 appears). This principle applies to matters of witness credibility as well as direct evidence of guilt.
27 *See Napue*, 360 U.S. at 269. To prevail on a claim of prosecutorial misconduct for use of false
28 witness testimony, a petitioner must show that (1) the testimony was actually false, (2) the

1 prosecution knew or should have known that the testimony was false, and (3) the false testimony
2 was material. *United States v. Zuno-Arce*, 339 F.3d 886, 889 (9th Cir. 2003) (citing *Napue*, 360
3 U.S. at 269-71); *see also Hayes v. Brown*, 399 F.3d 972, 984 (9th Cir. 2005) (prosecutor's action
4 in presenting false evidence to the jury and by failing to correct the record violated petitioner's
5 rights).

6 For a *Napue* claim, false testimony is material if there is "any reasonable likelihood that
7 the false testimony could have affected the judgment of the jury." *United States v. Agurs*, 427
8 U.S. 97, 103 (1976). "This materiality standard is, in effect, a form of harmless error review, but a
9 far lesser showing of harm is required under *Napue*'s materiality standard than under ordinary
10 harmless error review. *Napue* requires [the court] to determine only whether the error *could* have
11 affected the judgment of the jury, whereas ordinary harmless error review requires [the court] to
12 determine whether the error *would* have done so." *Dow v. Virga*, 729 F.3d 1041, 1048 (9th Cir.
13 2013) (citations omitted).

14 Like Respondent, this Court focuses on materiality and assumes for purposes of argument
15 that sergeant Jones' statement that he did not receive any information that pointed to another
16 suspect was false and that the prosecution knew or should have known of the falsity.

17 The California Supreme Court reasonably could have concluded that there was no
18 "reasonable likelihood that the false testimony could have affected the judgment of the jury,"
19 *United States v. Agurs*, 427 U.S. 97, 103 (1976), and rejected the claim on that basis. Such a
20 conclusion would have been reasonable because the jury knew from other evidence (especially
21 sergeant Jones' own testimony) as well as from defense counsel's closing argument the same
22 information that the jury would have learned had the prosecutor corrected the misstatement by
23 sergeant Jones. *See Soto v. Ryan*, 760 F.3d 947, 961 (9th Cir. 2014) (state court's denial of *Napue*
24 claim was not unreasonable because evidence that allegedly revealed the deception "was in fact
25 disclosed to the jury during trial"); *id.* at 968-69 & n.10 (the evidence not disclosed "was not
26 independently significant to or probative of [defendant's] guilt").

27 At Mr. Mendez's trial, the jury had heard testimony that there was a second person in the
28 car with Mr. Mendez, that there was an informant who directed the police to the house on Parker

1 Avenue, that Mr. Dye had been considered a suspect, and that Mr. Dye had been shot and killed by
2 the police at the house on Parker Avenue within hours of the shooting of officer McDonald. Much
3 of the information came from sergeant Jones himself. During his testimony, sergeant Jones agreed
4 with the statement that he had “received some information from some officers who provided [him]
5 some information given by citizen-informants.” RT 676. Sergeant Jones further testified: “The
6 information that I received was that the officers had an informant, a citizen-informant, which
7 essentially is a citizen who wants to remain anonymous but they want to give information, that
8 saw the suspect hide underneath 2635 after the shooting.” RT 676-77. Sergeant Jones also
9 testified that he learned that a possible suspect was under the house at 2635 Parker between 4:00
10 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. RT 679. Sergeant Jones also testified that he “had information that sergeant
11 Wingate, who was in charge of the Target Enforcement Task Force, was working with someone
12 and had information, but I didn’t get the specifics because I had witnesses and people downtown
13 that I needed to talk to.” RT 679. Sergeant Jones further testified that he received a weapon from
14 the informant the next day: “The same person who had reported to Wingate that they had saw the
15 person go under the house, I met that person. I was in an undercover car. I pulled up on the
16 person and the person handed me a plastic bag with a revolver in it.” RT 680; *see also* RT 681 (he
17 obtained the weapon from “[t]he person who was providing information to Sergeant Wingate and
18 his officers throughout this incident.”); RT 684 (“That’s what I said earlier, we had an officer
19 involved shooting. The suspect was underneath the house.”). The defense even showed a
20 videotape of sergeant Jones at 2635 Parker after the shooting. RT 962. Whatever caused sergeant
21 Jones to make the misstatement that forms the basis of the *Napue* claim, a jury listening to his
22 testimony overall certainly would have understood that there was another suspect and he was
23 aware of the existence of another suspect.²

24 During closing argument, defense counsel argued to the jury that reasonable doubt existed
25 based on the informant’s statements and Mr. Dye’s conduct. RT 1113-14.

26

27 ² Sergeant Rullamas, sergeant Jones’ partner, also testified that there was another suspect,
28 who had been shot and killed, RT 986-87, and that suspect who had been shot and killed at 2635
Parker was a suspect “in the shooting of the officer.” RT 997.

1
2 Then the scene changes a little bit, and we wound up with some
3 investigation that was going on that evening because someone said
4 that they had seen the shooter exit the vehicle down on Parker. This
5 is an anonymous informant. And that led of course to the
6 investigating officers to go down on Parker and to begin looking for
7 the suspect. That informant had also indicated that he had heard a
8 metal sound hit the ground. And in going down there -- then the
9 informant advised that not only had he observed the person who had
done the shooting exit the vehicle, he also observed that person go
underneath a house at 2635 Parker Avenue. And of course this
raises the next major question in this case, and that is the obvious
question, is the shooter under that house? Yes, he was. That was
Mr. Dye. And how do you know that and what are the factors that
would cause you to want to believe that it was in fact Mr. Dye who
did the shooting and Mr. Dye who was in fact attempting to [elude]
arrest just as it has been suggested the Mr. Mendez did?

10 Number one, he is the person that the informant observed exit the
11 vehicle and go into that crawl space underneath that house.

12 Number two, once the police have found that there is a suspect
13 underneath the house at 2635 Parker, they. . . . bring in the SWAT
squad so that they can extricate this person from underneath the
house.

14 RT 1113-14. Defense counsel further argued that Mr. Dye's flight and concealment under the
15 house showed Dye's consciousness of guilt. RT 1114. Defense counsel also argued that "the
16 trajectory of the bullets and the . . . conduct of Dye after the shooting" was at least as consistent
17 with Mr. Dye being the shooter as with Mr. Mendez being the shooter. RT 1117.³

18 The critical question in the case was the identity of the shooter, and sergeant Jones'
19 testimony was not particularly important on that point because he was not a percipient witness.
20 Officer McDonald had positively identified Mr. Mendez as the person who shot him. A
21 bystander, Ms. Harper, who heard the shooting, identified Mr. Mendez as the driver of the car.

22
23 ³ After emphasizing Mr. Dye as a suspect and the likely shooter (see RT 1113-1120),
24 defense counsel ended his closing argument with an argument that the prosecutor should in
rebuttal "be telling you wherein and how in he proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the shooter
in this case was Jesse Mendez in view of the conflicts" in the evidence. RT 1119. "He should try
to explain those things to you how he in fact proved his case beyond a reasonable doubt
notwithstanding all those factors." RT 1120. The prosecutor then began his closing argument
with a response to the challenge: "Well, let me tell you how I proved it. Only one person came in
here and told you exactly what happened. His name was officer Kevin McDonald." RT 1120.
25 After describing officer McDonald's statements, the prosecutor argued that "[t]here is nothing, not
26 one piece of evidence, not anything anybody in this case says anything to the contrary." *Id.* Later
27 in his rebuttal, the prosecutor stated that no one had testified that "the dead guy under the
28 house . . . was even in the car." RT 1121.

1 Having it pointed out for the jury that sergeant Jones was wrong when he testified that he had not
2 received any information or leads that pointed to anyone else as a suspect could have been another
3 illustration of the carelessness of the police, but that does not show any reasonable likelihood that
4 the false testimony could have affected the judgment of the jury as to Mr. Mendez's guilt. The
5 jury already had plenty of other information on which to base an opinion that this was a shoddy
6 investigation by the Oakland Police Department, e.g., the police had lost a photo of Mr. Mendez
7 that was shown to Officer McDonald at the hospital to identify the shooter, the police had not
8 tested Mr. Dye's hands for gunshot residue, and the police had not tested the jacket that Mr.
9 Mendez allegedly had worn for gunshot residue. RT 1115-16. Defense counsel argued that, once
10 the police made the decision that Mr. Mendez was the shooter, "they dropped the ball" and
11 "stopped doing any further investigation." RT 1116.

12 The case against Mr. Mendez was strong, and rested on eyewitness testimony from the
13 victim of the shooting who had been within a few feet of Mr. Mendez. Mr. Mendez had changed
14 his appearance and fled the area promptly after the shooting. Mr. Mendez's defense depended
15 largely on speculation "from the lighting conditions, McDonald's preoccupation with his
16 flashlight, the fact that the passenger was, at times, out of McDonald's view, the missing
17 photograph, the location of the bullets and casings, and the unanalyzed gunshot residue kit."
18 Mendez, at *10. A fairminded jurist could reasonably have concluded that there was no
19 deprivation of due process or violation of *Napue* because the false testimony was not material,
20 given that the correct information was presented to the jury in other testimony, the witness who
21 made the misstatement was not a percipient witness to the shooting of officer McDonald or to the
22 events at the house on Parker Avenue.

23 Mr. Mendez argues that the prosecution's case "lacked persuasiveness" and "depended
24 entirely on McDonald's belief that the driver shot him even though McDonald did not see who
25 held the gun that fired from the driver's lap area while he could not see the passenger." Docket
26 No. 7 at 30. Despite Mr. Mendez's suggestion to the contrary, officer McDonald was very certain
27 in his testimony that Mr. Mendez shot him. Officer McDonald explained that his training taught
28 him to notice everything; although he could see out of the corner of his eye that the passenger was

1 not moving, he kept his focus on Mr. Mendez. He also testified that he was able to see Mr.
2 Mendez: (1) the lighting was sufficient because, while it was midnight, there was a streetlight
3 across the street that illuminated Mr. Mendez's face; (2) Mr. Mendez was in the driver's seat and
4 had turned around in his seat so that he was looking at officer McDonald (and vice versa) as
5 Officer McDonald approached the car; and (3) officer McDonald was a foot from the car at the
6 post behind the driver's door when shot. Officer Mr. Mendez was emphatic that Mr. Mendez
7 rather than the passenger shot him: (1) the muzzle flash at the end of the barrel that accompanies a
8 gunshot came from Mr. Mendez's lower lap area; (2) Officer McDonald saw no movement by the
9 passenger; (3) Officer McDonald saw the gun in Mr. Mendez's hand as Mr. Mendez raised his arm
10 up to fire the third and fourth shots; (4) Officer McDonald did not see the passenger leaning
11 forward to reach toward the driver's lap area, even though he did not see the passenger for 4-5
12 seconds when the shooting was going on; and (5) Officer McDonald instinctively tried to run
13 behind the car and toward the passenger's side when the shooting started, which he would not
14 have done if he thought the passenger was the shooter. Further, contrary to Mr. Mendez's
15 assertion in his amended petition, Officer McDonald did not testify on the cited pages that "he saw
16 the arm *reach out of the window* with the gun to fire two more shots at him." Docket No. 7 at 31
17 (emphasis added).

18 Mr. Mendez argues that the false evidence problem was exacerbated by the prosecutor's
19 objection on cross-examination. On cross-examination, sergeant Jones answered in the
20 affirmative to the question whether the information "that the officers acted upon when they went
21 to 2635 Parker Avenue was that of the observations of the person who indicated he had seen the
22 shooting." RT 708. The prosecutor did *not* object to that question and only objected when
23 defense counsel tried to elicit the hearsay evidence with the follow-up question, "And that person
24 had advised the investigating officers that he had actually seen the person who had done the
25 shooting go underneath that house?" RT 708. Mr. Mendez's argument that the prosecutor
26 improperly interposed a hearsay objection to defense counsel's inquiry on cross-examination fails
27 to persuade the Court. "The California Supreme Court reasonably could have concluded that there
28 was no reasonable likelihood that the judgment of the jury would have been affected if, instead of

1 an objection, sergeant Jones had answered the question in the affirmative and said that the
2 informant had told an investigator that he saw the person who did the shooting go under the
3 house.”

4 Therefore, Mr. Mendez is not entitled to the writ on his *Napue* claim.

5 D. Brady Claim

6 1. Background

7 Mr. Mendez claims that the suppression of some evidence related to the citizen-informant
8 violated his rights under *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963). The suppressed evidence
9 consisted of (1) a recording made surreptitiously by sergeant Jones of his meeting with the citizen-
10 informant on May 20 when sergeant Jones received a gun from the citizen-informant; and (2) the
11 audio recordings of “interviews of Sergeants Wingate and Mork and officer Roche, in which they
12 describe[d] their joint interview with the two witnesses, one of whom told them he saw Officer
13 McDonald be shot and saw the shooter hide under the house where officers found and killed Dye.”
14 Docket No. 4 at 14. These materials were not provided to the defense until the state habeas
15 proceedings. Docket No. 7 at 24.

16 Mr. Mendez argues that the suppressed evidence was material in two ways. First, the
17 evidence might have enabled defense counsel to find the citizen-informant. Second, the evidence
18 might have bolstered defense efforts to get the citizen-informant’s statement (i.e., that he saw the
19 shooting and saw the shooter hide under the house on Parker Avenue) admitted as a spontaneous
20 statement. According to Mr. Mendez, the suppressed information “revealed to the defense for the
21 first time that Sergeant Wingate had paid a reward to the witness at the time he told them where to
22 find the shooter.” Docket No. 4 at 14.

23 The California Supreme Court rejected the *Brady* claim on the merits in a summary denial
24 of Mr. Mendez’s habeas petition, *see* Docket No. 19-12, and no lower state court issued a reasoned
25 decision on the *Brady* claim. This Court therefore applies § 2254(d) to the California Supreme
26 Court’s summary rejection of the *Brady* claim. Because the claim was rejected by the California
27 Supreme Court without explanation, this Court “must determine what arguments or theories
28 supported or . . . could have supported, the state court’s decision; and then it must ask whether it is

1 possible fairminded jurists could disagree that those arguments or theories are inconsistent with
2 the holding in a prior decision of [the U.S. Supreme] Court.” *Harrington*, 562 U.S. at 102.

3 2. Analysis

4 In *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963), the Supreme Court held that “the suppression
5 by the prosecution of evidence favorable to an accused upon request violates due process where
6 the evidence is material either to guilt or to punishment, irrespective of the good faith or bad faith
7 of the prosecution.” *Id.* at 87. For a *Brady* claim to succeed, a petitioner must show: (1) that the
8 evidence at issue is favorable to the accused, either because it is exculpatory or impeaching; (2)
9 that it was suppressed by the prosecution, either willfully or inadvertently; and (3) that it was
10 material (or, put differently, that prejudice ensued). *See Banks v. Dretke*, 540 U.S. 668, 691
11 (2004).

12 The first prong of a *Brady* claim is satisfied. “[W]hether evidence is favorable is a
13 question of substance, not degree, and evidence that has any affirmative, evidentiary support for
14 the defendant's case or any impeachment value is, by definition, favorable.” *Comstock v.*
15 *Humphries*, 786 F.3d 701, 708 (9th Cir. 2015) (citing *Strickler v. Greene*, 527 U.S. 263, 281-82
16 (1999)). The recordings were favorable to Mr. Mendez because they were both exculpatory and
17 impeaching. If believed, the citizen-informant's statement mentioned in the recordings of the
18 interviews of the officers was exculpatory in that it pointed to Mr. Dye as the shooter. The
19 recordings also had impeachment value because they contradicted the police officers' testimony
20 that no reward had been paid and sergeant Jones' testimony that he received no information
21 pointing to other suspects.

22 The second prong of a *Brady* claim is satisfied because the recordings were suppressed and
23 were not produced until after the trial. The explanation from the district attorney's office was that
24 the items had been overlooked because they were located in the Oakland Police Department's
25 Internal Affairs file for the officer-involved shooting of Mr. Dye rather than in the investigative
26 file for the shooting of officer McDonald. *Brady* has no good faith or inadvertence defense;
27 whether the nondisclosure was negligent or by design, it is the responsibility of the prosecutor to
28 turn over the materials, *Gant v. Roe*, 389 F.3d 908, 912 (9th Cir. 2004), including materials

1 known only to the police, *see Phillips v. Ornoski*, 673 F.3d 1168, 1186-87 (9th Cir. 2012).

2 Mr. Mendez's claim falters at the third, or materiality, prong of a *Brady* claim.

3 Evidence is material under *Brady* "when there is a reasonable probability that, had the
4 evidence been disclosed, the result of the proceeding would have been different." *Cone v. Bell*,
5 556 U.S. 449, 470 (2009). Mere speculation that suppressed evidence might have changed the
6 trial is not enough to satisfy the materiality element of a *Brady* claim. *See Wood v. Bartholomew*,
7 516 U.S. 1 (1995); *Barker v. Fleming*, 423 F.3d 1085, 1099 (9th Cir. 2005) ("The mere
8 possibility that an item of undisclosed information might have helped the defense, or might have
9 affected the outcome of the trial, does not establish 'materiality' in the constitutional sense."")
10 The issue under AEDPA is whether the California Supreme Court could reasonably have found
11 the evidence was not material. Several reasons could have supported a determination by the
12 California Supreme Court that the suppressed evidence was not material. First and foremost, the
13 defense knew almost all of the substance of the information in the recordings from other
14 disclosures made before trial.⁴ *See Rhoades v. Henry*, 638 F.3d 1027, 1038-39 (9th Cir. 2011) (no

16 ⁴ Defense counsel had received several important items.

17 Before trial, counsel had received sergeant Jones' report which had a chronology of events
18 showing, among other things, that he had met with the citizen-informant and surreptitiously
19 recorded his meeting with the citizen-informant on May 20, where the citizen-informant gave him
20 a gun and "said the suspects were throwing guns out of the vehicle as they drove down Parker
21 Street." Docket No. 19-9 at 35. That written report did not state that the citizen-informant had
22 indicated a reward had been paid, whereas the recording disclosed after trial apparently included
23 the citizen-informant making reference to having received a reward.

24 Counsel also had received before trial "a copy of the recorded interview of Sergeant
25 Romans," who was one of the officers at the meeting with the citizen-informant on the night of the
26 shooting when he gave his statement to the police. *Id.* at 19, 49.

27 Counsel also had received before trial the handwritten notes, but not the audio recordings,
28 of the interviews of officer Roche and sergeant Mork, who also were present at the meeting with
the citizen-informant. *Id.* at 49. The notes of the interview of officer Roche, apparently written by
sergeant Pullamas are found at pages 75-80 of Docket # 19-9. Some of the handwritten notes are
hard to read, but I think some parts of the note state the following: (1) radio dispatch relayed that
someone saw the shooting and knew where suspect was; Roche and [illegible] went to the address
but no one was there; (2) when Roche and [illegible - Romans? Ramos?] got back to command
post, dispatch reported that the person would meet them at a McDonald's restaurant; (3) Roche

1 disclosure violation where one of three reports pertaining to the same confession was turned over
 2 and the reports not turned over added no details not apparent or available from the other sources);
 3 *Coe v. Bell*, 161 F.3d 320, 344 (6th Cir. 1998) (“There is no *Brady* violation ‘where a defendant
 4 “knew or should have known the essential facts permitting him to take advantage of any
 5 exculpatory information,” or where the evidence is available ... from another source,’ because in
 6 such cases there is really nothing for the government to disclose.”). The citizen-informant’s
 7 statement had been disclosed to defense counsel, and defense counsel tried to make use of it at
 8 trial. The fact that the citizen-informant wanted a reward for his information also was disclosed to
 9 defense counsel, although the information given to defense counsel was that the officers did not
 10 actually pay a reward, whereas the suppressed evidence showed that a sizeable reward had been
 11 paid to the citizen-informant, who remained anonymous.

12 Second, the reward information would have made it less likely, rather than more likely,
 13 that the citizen-informant’s full statement would have been admitted under the spontaneous
 14 statement exception to the hearsay rule.⁵ With regard to the hearsay problem presented by the

15 and others met with the informant, who “said he saw whole incident. Saw car [?] go onto Garfield.
 16 Saw where [illegible] got out of car. Saw him throw something--possibly gun-- saw him go into
 17 crawl space of house and gave us exact address. He asked for money. He provided his cell
 18 number for us to call him.” Docket No. 19-9 at 77; (4) “Wingate, me, sgt. Mork, sgt. Ramons met
 19 w/ the caller. He had a friend who was with him. His main concern was money & animosity [sic].
 20 Agreed on \$5,000 for info. I could hear clearly what they were saying,” and the informant said the
 suspect went southbound on Parker, “saw him get out of car and throw something and then hide
 under the house,” *id.* at 78; and (5) officer Roche described his role in trying to apprehend the
 suspect under the house.

21 Before trial, counsel may have been provided the notes from the interview of sergeant
 22 Wingate. The district attorney stated that defense counsel was provided a copy of handwritten
 23 notes, but not the audio recording, of the interview of sergeant Wingate before trial; and trial
 24 counsel stated in his declaration that if a “copy of Sergeant Wingate’s recorded” interview was
 provided, he “[did] not know why it is not in [his] file.” *Compare* Docket No. 19-9 at 50 *with*
id. at 19.

25 Before trial, defense counsel was provided with the cell phone number that the citizen-
 26 informant had given to police. *Id.* at 19.

27 ⁵ California Evidence Code § 1240 provides the State’s hearsay exception for spontaneous
 28 statements: “Evidence of a statement is not made inadmissible by the hearsay rule if the
 statement: [¶] (a) Purports to narrate, describe, or explain an act, condition, or event perceived by

1 informant's statement, defense counsel already knew the statement was made shortly after the
2 shooting and that the witness appeared to be shocked, but not so shocked that he could not call the
3 police twice to arrange a meeting and request anonymity because of a fear of retaliation, and
4 ultimately ask for a reward. The new evidence that a reward had been paid would have not made
5 the informant's statement any more spontaneous than it otherwise would have been. The evidence
6 that a reward had been paid to the citizen-informant was not exculpatory and did not put his
7 statements in a materially different light from the information known to the defense at the time of
8 trial.

9 The citizen-informant had the acumen to discuss a reward for the information he would
10 give the police, and had the presence of mind to plan a meeting with the police to provide his
11 statement. *See, e.g.*, Docket No. 19-9 at 67 (police notes of interview of sergeant Wingate relate
12 that the informant "gave no personal info. He wanted \$"); *id.* at 78 (police notes of interview of

14 the declarant; and [¶] (b) Was made spontaneously while the declarant was under the stress of
15 excitement caused by such perception." Cal. Evid. Code § 1240. For evidence to be admissible
16 under § 1240, "(1) there must be some occurrence startling enough to produce this nervous
17 excitement and render the utterance spontaneous and unreflecting; (2) the utterance must have
18 been made before there has been time to contrive and misrepresent, i.e., while the nervous
19 excitement may be supposed still to dominate and the reflective powers to be yet in abeyance; and
20 (3) the utterance must relate to the circumstance of the occurrence preceding it." *People v. Poggi*,
21 45 Cal. 3d 306, 318 (Cal. 1988). In considering the speaker's mental state, the "nature of the
22 utterance--how long it was made after the startling incident and whether the speaker blurted it out,
23 for example--may be important, but solely as an indicator of the mental state of the declarant. The
24 fact that a statement is made in response to questioning is one factor suggesting the answer may be
25 the product of deliberation, but it does not ipso facto deprive the statement of spontaneity."
People v. Farmer, 47 Cal. 3d 888, 903-04 (Cal. 1989), *abrogated on other grounds by People v.*
26 *Waidla*, 22 Cal. 4th 690 (Cal. 2000); *see, e.g., Farmer*, 47 Cal. 3d at 903-04 (statement made to
27 police dispatcher by wounded crime victim was admissible under spontaneous statement exception
28 to hearsay rule); *id.* (statements of victim who was bleeding and in great pain to responding police
officer were admissible under spontaneous statement exception); *People v. Pirwani*, 119 Cal. App.
4th 770, 789-90 (Cal. Ct. App. 2004) (holding that admission of evidence as a spontaneous
statement was erroneous where elderly woman who called counselor was "tearful and evidently
quite shaken by the news that she was about to be evicted," but two days elapsed before the
elderly woman met with counselor and made the statement that was being offered as a
spontaneous statement; elderly woman "had two days in which to gather her thoughts, reflect on
them, and regain her composure," and had spoken to police, even if her demeanor at the time of
making the statement in question was "bewildered, confused, distraught and tearful--though not
hysterical--and as 'looking like someone who had received a shock.'").

1 Roche state: “His main concern was money & animity (sic). Agreed on \$5,000 for info.”) The
 2 citizen informant also had the presence of mind to implement his desire to stay anonymous by
 3 withholding his name and providing to the police only a cell phone number. With or without the
 4 suppressed evidence, the statement would not have been admitted under the spontaneous statement
 5 exception to the hearsay rule because defense counsel would not have been able to convince the
 6 trial court that the citizen-informant made his statement while his “reflective powers” were still “in
 7 abeyance,” *Poggi*, 45 Cal. 3d at 319.

8 Third, the citizen-informant’s statement did not have such indicia of trustworthiness and
 9 reliability that due process required its admission. The Supreme Court has recognized that, when
 10 crucial defense “evidence that [bears] persuasive assurances of trustworthiness and is well within
 11 the basic rationale of the exceptions for declarations against interest,” “the hearsay rule may not be
 12 applied mechanistically to defeat the ends of justice.” *Chambers v. Mississippi*, 410 U.S. 284
 13 (1973).⁶ Mr. Mendez’s case was not one where the evidence had such persuasive assurances of

14 ⁶ In *Chambers*, a third party had confessed to the murder, and later recanted. *Chambers*
 15 called the third party as a witness; the third party denied responsibility for the murder, and the
 16 prosecution established in cross-examination that the third party had recanted his confession.
 17 Unusual and outdated state law evidence rules (that the defendant vouched for the third party
 18 because he had called him as a witness) precluded *Chambers* from effectively questioning or
 19 cross-examining the third party to impeach his recantation. *Chambers*, 410 U.S. at 295-97; *see id.*
 20 at 296 (Mississippi’s vouching rule has little purpose in modern criminal trials because parties
 21 generally must “take [their witnesses] where they find them”). Other evidence of the third party’s
 22 guilt was excluded because the state’s declaration-against-interest exception to the hearsay rule did
 23 not apply to declarations against *penal* interests. *Chambers*, 410 U.S. at 298-300. The hearsay
 24 statements in *Chambers* were made and offered at trial “under circumstances that provided
 25 considerable assurance of their reliability,” i.e., the confessions mere made spontaneously to a
 26 close acquaintance shortly after the murder; each one was corroborated by other evidence,
 27 including the third party’s sworn confession and testimony of eyewitnesses; each statement was
 28 self-incriminatory and unquestionably against the confessor’s self interests; and the declarant (i.e.,
 the third party) was in court and could have been cross-examined at *Chambers*’ trial. *Id.* at 300-01.

29 It was the combination of the rigid application of the State’s evidence rules and the fact
 30 that the evidence bore considerable assurances of trustworthiness and reliability that led to the due
 31 process violation in *Chambers*. *See id.* at 302-03. The Supreme Court specifically pointed out
 32 that its holding did not “signal any diminution in the respect traditionally accorded the States in
 33 the establishment and implementation of their own criminal trial rules and procedures.” *Id.* at 303.
 34 Here, by contrast, the citizen-informant’s statement was inadmissible with a routine application of

1 trustworthiness or was within the basic rationale of an exception to the hearsay rule. The
2 statement lacked sufficient spontaneity to be admissible under the exception to the hearsay rule as
3 discussed in the preceding paragraph. The substance of the statement also raised some questions
4 about its trustworthiness and reliability. There is no indication as to how the citizen-informant
5 managed to see both the shooting and the shooter hide under the house that was 1,235 feet away
6 from where officer McDonald was shot. Assuming *arguendo* that the informant saw someone get
7 out of the car and hide under the house -- a more likely proposition, given that Dye was found
8 hiding under the house -- the informant's ability to observe that event made it less likely that he
9 actually saw officer McDonald get shot 1,235 feet away from it. Not only did the two events take
10 place more than four football fields apart, the evidence regarding the shooting of officer
11 McDonald suggested that any eyewitness would have to be extremely close to the car to be able to
12 discern whether it was the driver or passenger in the front seat who fired the shot that hit officer
13 McDonald. Officer McDonald testified that the shot that hit him was fired from the driver's lap
14 area, and the bullet casings for all four shots were found in the car on the driver's side. These
15 facts would suggest that the gun was held below door level when fired and that the gun was not
16 held outside the car, both of which would have made it difficult for someone in another car or
17 anywhere other than extremely close to the car to see whether it was the passenger or driver who
18 fired the shot. Unlike the situation in *Chambers*, there was not a statement with indicia of
19 trustworthiness and reliability that was excluded by an odd combination of unusual state evidence
20 rules that worked together to defeat the defendant's rights to due process and to present a defense.

21 Fourth, Mr. Mendez's contention that the suppressed information about the reward and
22 physical description of the informant would have enabled him to find the citizen-informant is
23 utterly unpersuasive. The reward payment would not have provided a lead for defense counsel to
24 look for the citizen-informant because the payment had been made anonymously and did not

25
26
27 the hearsay rule and did not have considerable assurances of its reliability such that it fit within the
28 spirit of the hearsay rule or exceptions thereto.

1 contain his name.⁷ The physical description learned from the suppressed materials was that the
2 citizen-informant and the person with him were “5 feet 9 inches to 6 feet tall skinny medium or
3 dark complected black males with shoulder length dreads whose ages were between 17 and the
4 early twenties,” and were brothers from the area. Docket No. 7 at 69. Searching for the citizen-
5 informant with that information would have been the proverbial search for a needle in a haystack,
6 because hundreds or perhaps thousands of men in the general area might have met that description.
7 Also, the person to be searched for did not want to be found because he feared retaliation. Recall
8 also that the trial took place two and a half years later, by which time the person’s hair style may
9 have changed. In sum, the search of the haystack would have been for a needle that did not want
10 to be found and may have looked different than when last seen. Mr. Mendez’s assertion that the
11 defense could have found that informant and persuaded him to speak to the defense or to testify
12 had the materials at issue been disclosed to defense counsel is precisely the kind of speculation
13 that courts have determined to be insufficient to satisfy the materiality element of a *Brady* claim.
14 See, e.g., *Wood v. Bartholomew*, 516 U.S. 1 (1995) (Ninth Circuit erred in speculating that defense
15 counsel would have prepared and presented his case differently if he had known about the
16 inadmissible polygraph test results); *Runningeagle v. Ryan*, 686 F.3d 758 (9th Cir. 2012)
17 (although the court can infer from the evidence that the informant “would have implicated”
18 another person, “we have no way of knowing that his testimony would exculpate” defendant; in
19 any event, it would have been testimony from a notoriously unreliable source, a jailhouse
20 informant); *United States v. Abonce-Barrera*, 257 F.3d 959, 970 (9th Cir. 2001) (finding that
21
22

23 ⁷ During the course of his state habeas proceedings, Mr. Mendez’s counsel made inquiries
24 about the reward. On April 22, 2013, deputy district attorney Kobal wrote to Mr. Mendez’s
25 habeas counsel that, in response to counsel’s request, she had inquired about documentation of any
26 reward to an anonymous citizen-informant. She spoke to sergeant Wingate, who believed the
27 informant had been paid but could not recall whether he or another officer took care of the
28 payment. Further, there was no documentation that would have information identifying the
informant because he was an anonymous informant. Captain Joyner, the lieutenant in charge of
the homicide unit in 2007, recalled that the money was given out anonymously, and had checked
his files but did not have any paperwork about it. Sergeant Joyner further stated that, “because the
money was given under anonymous conditions, any generated paperwork would simply be a
notation of money paid out to an anonymous source.” Docket No. 19-9 at 55.

1 evidence was not material under *Brady* where the defendant had only “a hunch” that the evidence
2 would be useful).

3 Fifth, had counsel presented evidence at trial that the citizen-informant had received a
4 substantial reward, the jury may have been more suspicious of his statement that he saw the
5 shooting and the shooter hide. The payment evidence would have raised certain credibility
6 questions for the informant that would not exist if the jury just thought he was doing his civic
7 duty. “Jurors suspect [informants’] motives from the moment they hear about them in a case, and
8 they frequently disregard their testimony altogether as highly untrustworthy and unreliable.”
9 *Banks*, 540 U.S. at 702 (quoting Hon. Stephen H. Trott, *Words of Warning for Prosecutors Using*
10 *Criminals as Witnesses*, 47 Hastings L.J. 1381, 1385 (1996)).

11 Sixth, there is some disagreement among lower courts as to whether inadmissible
12 evidence, such as the citizen-informant’s statement, can even be *Brady* material. The Ninth
13 Circuit has observed that the *Bartholomew* decision, in which the suppressed evidence was
14 inadmissible polygraph evidence, “did not categorically reject the suggestion that inadmissible
15 evidence can be material under *Brady*, if it could have led to the discovery of admissible
16 evidence,” *Paradis v. Arave*, 240 F.3d 1169, 1178 (9th Cir. 2001), but also recognized that
17 “[t]here is no uniform approach in the federal courts to the treatment of inadmissible evidence as
18 the basis for *Brady* claims” and even the Ninth “Circuit’s law on this issue is not entirely
19 consistent.” *Id.* at 1178, 1179. *Compare Smith v. Baldwin*, 510 F.3d 1127, 1148 (9th Cir. 2007)
20 (“Because they are inadmissible in Oregon courts, the results of Edmonds’s polygraph examination
21 do not qualify as ‘evidence’ for *Brady* purposes, let alone ‘material evidence.’ Thus, it is not
22 reasonably probable that the immediate disclosure of the polygraph results would have influenced
23 Smith’s decision to plead no contest rather than proceed to trial because Smith ‘could have made
24 no mention of them either during argument or while questioning witnesses’ or at any other point in
25 the trial”), *with Silva v. Brown*, 416 F.3d 980, 991 (9th Cir. 2005) (rejecting State’s argument that
26 the undisclosed deal with a “vital prosecution witness” not to undergo a psychiatric evaluation
27 until after he testified at trial cannot be deemed material under *Brady* because it would have been
28 inadmissible in court; even if the defendant could not have forced a psychiatric evaluation of the

1 witness, “*the fact of the deal itself* would have been admissible to impeach [the witness] by calling
2 into question his capacity as a witness and by illustrating the full extent of the agreement that
3 provided a motive for [him] to testify” thereby undermining his credibility).

4 The California Supreme Court could have relied on the foregoing reasons to reject Mr.
5 Mendez’s *Brady* claim on the ground that he had not shown a “reasonable probability that, had the
6 evidence been disclosed, the result of the proceeding would have been different.” *Cone v. Bell*,
7 556 U.S. at 469. Such a decision would not have been contrary to, or an unreasonable application
8 of clearly established federal law as set forth by the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Mendez therefore is
9 not entitled to the writ on this claim.

10 E. Claims Based On Denial of Request For Continuance

11 1. Background

12 Mr. Mendez argues that the trial court’s denial of his mid-trial request for a continuance to
13 obtain witnesses violated his rights to due process and compulsory process. The continuance was
14 sought because several police officers had failed to appear despite the defense’s efforts to
15 subpoena them using the procedure established by the Oakland Police Department to subpoena
16 officers. After eight witnesses had testified for the defense, trial counsel informed the court on
17 Thursday (January 28) that he had no more available witnesses, and had been unable to secure the
18 testimony of sergeant Wingate, officer Roche, officer Pope and former officer Jimenez, although
19 he had attempted to subpoena them. Counsel and the court discussed the problems with
20 subpoenaing the officers and an attempt was to be made to get the officers to appear. *See* RT
21 1001-05. The court ordered the prosecutor to make all reasonable efforts to bring officers Pope
22 and Roche before the court. RT 1003. On the following Monday, defense counsel announced that
23 he had “no witnesses at this time,” RT 1006, and asked for a continuance “until we can get these
24 witnesses here. I understand that Officer Roche could be back at the earliest Thursday.” RT 1007.
25 The court refused to continue the trial until Thursday (i.e., three days later). Counsel and the court
26 again discussed the problems subpoenaing the officers. Eventually, the court said: “So basically
27 because you don’t have any witnesses you’re going to have to rest. You’ve asked for a
28 continuance. I’ve denied that. We’re not waiting until Thursday.” RT 1009-10. At the request of

1 defense counsel, the trial court did issue arrest warrants for officers Pope and Roche that day, but
2 the parties later asked the warrant for officer Pope's arrest to be withdrawn because he was on
3 "death leave."

4 The California Court of Appeal rejected Mr. Mendez's claim that the denial of the
5 continuance violated state law, and "[f]or the same reasons, we also reject Mendez's constitutional
6 claims" *Mendez*, at *14.

7 With respect to former officers Jiminez and Wingate, Mendez did
8 not show that either witness's testimony could have been obtained
9 within a reasonable time. Mendez also failed to show that Jiminez's
10 or Wingate's testimony would be material, noncumulative, and could
11 not otherwise be proven. In fact, Mendez's argument with respect to
12 materiality is almost entirely devoid of citation to the record.
13 Mendez's trial counsel even conceded, at the time he moved for a
14 continuance, that "we can do without [Wingate]." On appeal,
15 Mendez offers nothing but speculation when he argues that Wingate
16 could have established that the informant's out-of-court statement
17 was a spontaneous statement. With respect to Jiminez, we fail to see
18 how he could have added anything to Leonis's testimony regarding
19 Officer McDonald's inability to identify the adult in the missing
20 photograph. And there is no evidence in the record that the
21 photograph in fact showed Mendez. Good cause was not shown for
22 a continuance to obtain either Jiminez's or Wingate's testimony.

23 With respect to Pope and Roche, it is undisputed that Mendez did
24 properly subpoena the officers through the Oakland Police
25 Department. . . . It is also true that "[o]ur judicial system is grounded
26 on the sanctity of compulsory process, and it operates on the
27 assumption that a subpoenaed witness—whether a police officer or
28 the President of the United States—will either obey an order to
appear in court or present his excuses sufficiently in advance of the
appearance date...." (*Gaines v. Municipal Court* (1980) 101
Cal.App.3d 556, 560, 161 Cal.Rptr. 704.) Nonetheless, the trial
court did not abuse its discretion in denying the motion for a
continuance. Mendez has not shown that either Pope or Roche
would have said anything materially helpful to his defense.

23 Mendez made no offer of proof with respect to either officer. The
24 record does show that Pope gave Leonis the wallet-sized photograph
25 of a male adult and a child that was removed from the Camaro. But,
26 Mendez did not assert that Pope would testify that it was Mendez
27 shown in the photograph. Nor was there any showing that Pope
28 would be available to testify within a reasonable period of time. In
fact, he was out on an undefined "death leave." With respect to
Roche, the record shows that he would have been available "at the
earliest" within about three days. The record shows only that Roche
was the officer who shot Dye, and there is absolutely nothing in the
record to suggest how he would have been able to provide material
and noncumulative evidence in this case. Accordingly, we cannot

1 say that the trial court abused its discretion. For the same reasons,
2 we also reject Mendez's constitutional claims.

2 *Mendez*, at *13-14.

3 2. Analysis

4 "The matter of continuance is traditionally within the discretion of the trial judge, and it is
5 not every denial of a request for more time that violates due process even if the party fails to offer
6 evidence or is compelled to defend without counsel. Contrariwise, a myopic insistence upon
7 expeditiousness in the face of a justifiable request for delay can render the right to defend with
8 counsel an empty formality." *Ungar v. Sarafite*, 376 U.S. 575, 589 (1964) (citations omitted).
9 The Supreme Court explained that there are no "mechanical tests for deciding when a denial of a
10 continuance is so arbitrary as to violate due process. The answer must be found in the
11 circumstances present in every case, particularly in the reasons presented to the trial judge at the
12 time the request is denied." *Id.* (citations omitted); *see also Morris v. Slappy*, 461 U.S. 1, 11-12
13 (1983) ("broad discretion must be granted trial courts on matters of continuances; only an
14 unreasoning and arbitrary 'insistence upon expeditiousness in the face of a justifiable request for
15 delay' violates the right to assistance of counsel"). When a continuance has been denied in
16 violation of the defendant's constitutional rights, habeas relief is not available unless there is a
17 showing of actual prejudice to petitioner's defense resulting from the refusal to grant a
18 continuance. *See Gallego v. McDaniel*, 124 F.3d 1065, 1072 (9th Cir. 1997).

19 Mr. Mendez argues also that the denial of a continuance also denied his rights under the
20 Sixth Amendment's Compulsory Process Clause. He does not, however, identify any Supreme
21 Court case holding that the Compulsory Process Clause is violated by the denial of a midtrial
22 continuance. The Compulsory Process Clause of the Sixth Amendment preserves the right of a
23 defendant in a criminal trial to have compulsory process for obtaining a favorable witness. The
24 right to compulsory process is not absolute, however, *see Taylor v. Illinois*, 484 U.S. 400, 410
25 (1988); it may, in appropriate cases, "bow to accommodate other legitimate interests in the
26 criminal trial process," *Rock v. Arkansas*, 483 U.S. 44, 55 (1987), and applies only to testimony
27 that is both material and favorable to the defense. *See United States v. Valenzuela-Bernal*, 458
28 U.S. 858, 867, 873 (1982); *see, e.g.*, *United States v. Bowman*, 215 F.3d 951, 962-63 (9th Cir.

1 2000) (no Sixth Amendment violation where exclusion of testimony was not at all critical to the
2 defense; testimony sought would not have exculpated defendant if believed). The Compulsory
3 Process Clause prevents states from “imped[ing] a defendant’s right to put on a defense by
4 imposing mechanistic (*Chambers*) or arbitrary (*Washington* and *Rock*) rules of evidence.”
5 *LaGrand v. Stewart*, 133 F.3d 1253, 1266 (9th Cir. 1998).⁸

6 Mr. Mendez has identified no holding of the Supreme Court that decides whether or when
7 the Compulsory Process Clause may be violated by the denial of a continuance. It thus appears
8 that *Ungar v. Sarafite* and *Morris v. Slappy* provide the only clear constitutional basis for
9 challenging the denial of the continuance in this case.

10 The California Court of Appeal's rejection of Mr. Mendez's due process and compulsory
11 process claims was not contrary to or an unreasonable application of clearly established Federal
12 law as determined by the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Mendez's case was not one where the judge
13 had a "myopic insistence upon expeditiousness in the face of a justifiable request for delay."
14 *Ungar*, 376 U.S. at 589. The requested continuance would have been for three days, which was
15 not an overly lengthy period, but the jurors had already been present for about three weeks since
16 the start of voir dire. It was uncertain whether even the three-day continuance would result in any
17 witness being secured for trial. Only one of the witnesses (Roche) might have been available had
18 the trial been continued for three days. More importantly, defense counsel's description of the
19 reasons for needing the witnesses showed that none would be testifying to anything material that

21
22 ⁸ The Supreme Court's Compulsory Process Clause cases have largely been about
23 evidentiary rulings that affect the right to present a defense. *See, e.g., Rock v. Arkansas*, 483 U.S.
24 at 56-62 (Arkansas' per se rule excluding all hypnotically enhanced testimony was
25 unconstitutional when used to restrict defendant's right to testify); *Crane v. Kentucky*, 476 U.S.
26 683, 690-91 (1986) (defendant's right to present a defense was violated by a trial court's blanket
27 exclusion of competent, reliable evidence bearing on the credibility of a confession when such
28 evidence is central to the defendant's claim of innocence); *Green v. Georgia*, 442 U.S. 95 (1979)
(finding a due process violation in the exclusion of highly relevant and reliable hearsay evidence
on a key issue); *Chambers v. Mississippi*, 410 U.S. at 300-03 (defendant was denied a fair trial by
a combination of the state's unusual evidentiary rules that prevented him from calling witnesses
who would have testified that another witness made trustworthy, inculpatory statements on the
night of the crime).

1 was not cumulative, hearsay, or of only marginal relevance. That same information shows that,
2 even if there was an error in denying the continuance, it was harmless error because the absence of
3 these witnesses did not have a substantial and injurious effect on the jury's verdict.

4 Officer Pope and former officer Jimenez took part in showing to officer McDonald at the
5 hospital a photo of a man with a child that had been found in the abandoned car, and officer
6 McDonald had been unable to identify the man. But such testimony would have been cumulative
7 of officer Leonis's testimony that she and Pope brought the photo to the hospital, and showed it to
8 officer McDonald, who was unable to identify the man in that photo of a man with a child. *See*
9 RT 918-21. Also, there was no indication that officer Jimenez or officer Pope would be able to
10 affirmatively testify that Mr. Mendez was in fact the man in that photograph, which made any
11 potential testimony about Officer McDonald's inability to identify the man in the photo even less
12 useful. Mr. Mendez's assertion that these officers might "possibly locate the missing photo,"
13 Docket No. 7 at 82, was wholly speculative and did not support a continuance.

14 Defense counsel agreed at trial that he did not need sergeant Wingate as a witness. On
15 appeal, Mr. Mendez argued that sergeant Wingate could support his argument that the citizen-
16 informant's testimony was a spontaneous statement. But, as explained earlier in this order, the
17 statement was not a spontaneous statement. Sergeant Wingate's testimony would not have
18 changed that because his anticipated testimony apparently would have been that the citizen-
19 informant appeared shocked, but also would have shown that the same citizen-informant had the
20 presence of mind to seek a reward, remain anonymous, and make arrangements twice to meet the
21 officers before making the statement to them that he had seen the whole incident.

22 Defense counsel did not describe the anticipated testimony from officer Roche, who had
23 shot Mr. Dye, and did not explain how officer Roche had any material and noncumulative
24 information with regard to the shooting of officer McDonald. Insofar as Roche was sought to
25 relay the statement of the citizen-informant that the shooter was hiding under the house on Parker
26 Avenue, such testimony would have been hearsay as explained above.

27 The subpoena problems with the police officers are a concern, as one would expect that
28 government agents such as police officers and a police department should be the most respectful

1 of the subpoena power. It appears that defense counsel tried to subpoena the several officers, but
2 was unable to get subpoenas to one or more of the officers due to the procedures set up by the
3 Oakland Police Department for handling subpoenas of officers. However, while such problems
4 could jeopardize rights of criminal defendants in other contexts, it is not necessary to examine in-
5 depth the subpoena problems here because the anticipated testimony from those witnesses for
6 whom a continuance was sought was not going to be material. Mr. Mendez is not entitled to relief
7 on his claim that the denial of the continuance violated his federal constitutional rights. The
8 California Court of Appeal's rejection of Mr. Mendez's claim was not an unreasonable application
9 of, or contrary to, clearly established federal law as set forth by the U.S. Supreme Court.

10 F. Ineffective Assistance of Counsel Claims

11 Mr. Mendez asserts several ineffective assistance of counsel claims. Most of his
12 ineffective assistance of counsel claims relate to the foregoing claims that the citizen-informant's
13 statement should have been admitted and that sergeant Jones' false testimony should not have
14 been tolerated. Mr. Mendez also asserts that counsel failed to present motive evidence for Mr.
15 Dye, despite having indicated in his opening statement that he would do so. Mr. Mendez's
16 ineffective assistance of counsel claims were denied summarily by the California Supreme Court.⁹

17 The Sixth Amendment's right to counsel guarantees not only assistance, but effective
18 assistance, of counsel. *Strickland v. Washington*, 466 U.S. 668, 686 (1984). The benchmark for
19 judging any claim of ineffectiveness is whether counsel's conduct so undermined the proper
20 functioning of the adversarial process that the trial cannot be relied upon as having produced a just
21 result. *Id.* In order to prevail on a Sixth Amendment ineffectiveness of counsel claim, a petitioner

22
23 ⁹ Mr. Mendez did present an ineffective assistance of counsel claim on direct appeal based
24 on counsel's failure to present motive evidence for Mr. Dye. The claim was rejected by the
25 California Court of Appeal, which hypothesized reasons for counsel's actions. *See Mendez*, at
26 *14. Mr. Mendez thereafter added trial counsel's declaration regarding his decision-making and
27 presented the revised claim to the California Supreme Court. The California Supreme Court had
28 before it evidence in the habeas petition that had not been presented to the California Court of
Appeal on direct appeal. Therefore, because the evidence presented to the California Supreme
Court was a more complete picture than was earlier presented to the California Court of Appeal,
this Court looking at the California Supreme Court's unexplained denial, rather than the California
Court of Appeal's earlier reasoned decision, in applying § 2254(d).

1 must establish two things. First, he must demonstrate that counsel's performance was deficient
2 and fell below an "objective standard of reasonableness" under prevailing professional norms. *Id.*
3 at 687-88. Second, he must establish that he was prejudiced by counsel's deficient performance,
4 i.e., that "there is a reasonable probability that, but for counsel's unprofessional errors, the result
5 of the proceeding would have been different." *Id.* at 694. A reasonable probability is a probability
6 sufficient to undermine confidence in the outcome. *Id.* The relevant inquiry under *Strickland* is
7 not what defense counsel could have done, but rather whether his choices were reasonable. *See*
8 *Babbitt v. Calderon*, 151 F.3d 1170, 1173 (9th Cir. 1998).

9 A "doubly" deferential judicial review is appropriate in analyzing ineffective assistance of
10 counsel claims under § 2254. *See Cullen v. Pinholster*, 563 U.S. 170, 202 (2011). The "question
11 is not whether counsel's actions were reasonable. The question is whether there is any reasonable
12 argument that counsel satisfied *Strickland*'s deferential standard." *Harrington v. Richter*, 562 U.S.
13 86, 105 (2011).

14 1. Sergeant Jones' Testimony and the Informant's Statement

15 Mr. Mendez contends that counsel was ineffective in failing to argue that sergeant Jones'
16 knowledge of the confidential informant's statement to police was admissible to impeach sergeant
17 Jones' testimony; failing to impeach sergeant Jones' testimony that he had ruled out other suspects
18 with the confidential informant's statement; failing to argue that the redacted statement of sergeant
19 Jones on the video recording was admissible to impeach his testimony that he had received no
20 other leads and had ruled out other suspects; failing to offer the confidential informant's statement
21 as admissible under the spontaneous statement exception to the hearsay rule and as so trustworthy
22 that due process required its admission; failing to argue at trial that the prosecution had committed
23 a *Napue* violation; failing to object to the prosecutor's questions that elicited the answers violative
24 of *Napue* and to the court's question to sergeant Jones whether he had ruled out the passenger as a
25 possible shooter as asking for opinion evidence; and failing to investigate the materials he did
26 receive so that he could uncover the evidence that is the subject of the *Brady* claim.

27 The rejection of Mr. Mendez's ineffective assistance of counsel claims by the California
28 Supreme Court was not contrary to or an unreasonable application of *Strickland*. The California

1 Supreme Court reasonably could have concluded that any failing of counsel to adequately assert
2 the Confrontation Clause, Compulsory Process Clause, and Due Process Clause arguments
3 (including the *Napue* and *Brady* claims) was not deficient performance because, as explained in
4 the preceding sections of this order, those claims are not meritorious. *See Juan H. v. Allen*, 408
5 F.3d 1262, 1273 (9th Cir. 2005) (counsel's performance not deficient for failing to raise meritless
6 objection); *Rupe v. Wood*, 93 F.3d 1434, 1445 (9th Cir. 1996) (failure to take a futile action can
7 never be deficient performance). The California Supreme Court reasonably could have concluded
8 that counsel did not engage in deficient performance by not making further arguments that the
9 citizen-informant's statement was admissible as a spontaneous statement or because it was so
10 trustworthy that due process required its admission for the same reasons discussed in section B.2,
11 as well as footnote 6 and accompanying text, above.

12 The California Supreme Court also reasonably could have determined that, even if counsel
13 engaged in deficient performance in the manner alleged with regard to sergeant Jones' testimony
14 and the informant's statement, Mr. Mendez failed to satisfy the prejudice prong of *Strickland*.
15 That court could have concluded that the ineffective assistance claim failed on the prejudice prong
16 because the arguments would have failed, even if made. Alternatively, that court could have
17 concluded that there was no reasonable probability of a different outcome if the trial court had
18 admitted the confidential informant's statement (whether for the truth of the matter or as
19 impeachment), sergeant Jones' false statement had been corrected, and the court had excluded the
20 alleged opinion testimony that there were no other suspects and the passenger had been ruled out
21 as a suspect. The informant's statement had the problems mentioned earlier (i.e., the information
22 had been given in exchange for a reward and there were doubts about his ability to see both the
23 shooting and the shooter hiding under the house far away) that would have been pointed out by the
24 prosecutor. Sergeant Jones had not witnessed the shooting and was merely summarizing the
25 evidence collected. There also was "strong direct and circumstantial evidence that Mendez was
26 the shooter." *Mendez*, at *10. Officer McDonald was certain that he was shot by the driver, had
27 seen the driver raise his arm with the gun in it after the first two shots, and was firm in his
28 identification of Mr. Mendez as both the driver and the shooter. Mr. Mendez had not testified or

1 presented other direct evidence that Mr. Dye was the shooter, and the defense asked the jury to
2 speculate from various circumstances that Mr. Dye was the shooter. Further, evidence *was*
3 admitted that Mr. Dye was a suspect in the shooting and had been shot under the house on Parker
4 Avenue. And defense counsel argued that the citizen-informant saw the shooting and saw the
5 shooter hide under the house on Parker Avenue.

6 2. Motive Evidence

7 In his opening statement, defense counsel stated that Mr. Dye was also in the car and “had
8 some issues of his own. He has more of a record than Mr. Mendez to the extent that he was on
9 parole.” RT 68. Mr. Mendez argues that counsel was ineffective in failing to offer the evidence
10 counsel “promised” in his opening statement. Docket No. 7 at 65. At the time of the shooting, Mr.
11 Dye was on probation with a standard condition of probation that he had to submit to a search by
12 any “law enforcement officer at any time of the day or night with or without a search warrant,
13 including: vehicle, residence, person or any other property under your control.” Docket No. 19-9
14 at 83. Mr. Mendez argues that this evidence “would have provided a motive for Dye to shoot
15 McDonald rather than be found with a gun during a probation search” and go to prison for a
16 lengthy term. Docket No. 7 at 66. The prosecutor argued that Mr. Mendez had such a motive
17 because he was a felon in possession of a gun. Mr. Mendez also argues that counsel was
18 ineffective in failing to present evidence that in 2003, when police pulled over a car to arrest Dye
19 for a robbery, Dye had fled from the front passenger seat and tried to hide to avoid arrest.

20 The California Supreme Court reasonably could have rejected this ineffective assistance of
21 counsel claim on the prejudice prong of *Strickland*. That court could have concluded that there
22 was no reasonable probability of a different outcome if the motive evidence had been presented.
23 The motive evidence was quite weak. Mr. Mendez has not shown that probationers who are just
24 passengers in cars that commit moving violations are always or regularly searched, so he would
25 have been asking the jury to believe that the possibility of a search was so worrisome that a
26 probationer with a gun would shoot a police officer who has indicated nothing more afoot than a
27 traffic stop. And if the motive evidence was pursued, it would have put more focus on the only
28 gun that was found. That gun, found in the area where Mr. Dye had fled and possibly dropped by

1 him as he tried to hide, was not the weapon that fired the shots that hit officer McDonald; this
2 would have supported the view that Mr. Dye was not the shooter. The evidence that Mr. Dye had
3 fled from an officer three years earlier was of minimal probative value with regard to motive or
4 determining the identity of Officer McDonald's assailant. Further, as mentioned above, there was
5 "strong direct and circumstantial evidence that Mr. Mendez was the shooter." *Mendez*, at *10.
6 The jury also had heard evidence that Mr. Dye was a suspect, and the parties were in agreement
7 that he fled from the police after officer McDonald was shot.

8 Applying the "'highly deferential' look at counsel's performance . . . through § 2254(d)'s
9 'deferential lens,'" *Pinholster*, 563 U.S. at 190, it cannot be said that the California Supreme
10 Court's rejection of Mr. Mendez's ineffective assistance of counsel claims was contrary to or an
11 unreasonable application of *Strickland*. Mr. Mendez is not entitled to the writ on his ineffective
12 assistance of counsel claims.

13 G. A Certificate of Appealability Will Not Issue

14 Mr. Mendez has not "made a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right," 28
15 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(2), and this is not a case in which "reasonable jurists would find the district
16 court's assessment of the constitutional claims debatable or wrong." *Slack v. McDaniel*, 529 U.S.
17 473, 484 (2000). Accordingly, a certificate of appealability is **DENIED**.

18 VI. CONCLUSION

19 Petitioner has requested appointment of counsel to represent him in this action. A district
20 court may appoint counsel to represent a habeas petitioner whenever "the court determines that the
21 interests of justice so require" and such person is financially unable to obtain representation. 18
22 U.S.C. § 3006A(a)(2)(B). The decision to appoint counsel is within the discretion of the district
23 court. *See Chaney v. Lewis*, 801 F.2d 1191, 1196 (9th Cir. 1986). Appointment is mandatory only
24 when the circumstances of a particular case indicate that appointed counsel is necessary to prevent
25 due process violations. *See id.* The interests of justice do not require appointment of counsel in
26 this action. The request for appointment of counsel is **DENIED**. Docket No. 28.

27 ///

28 ///

1 The petition for writ of habeas corpus is **DENIED** on the merits. Mr. Mendez's motion for
2 an evidentiary hearing is **DENIED**. Docket No. 27. The Clerk shall close the file.

3

4 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

5

6 Dated: December 21, 2015

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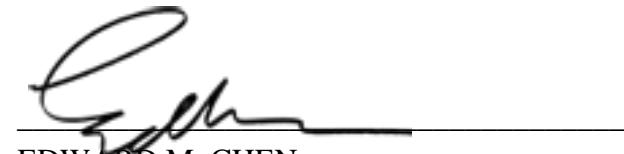
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EDWARD M. CHEN
United States District Judge

APPENDIX C

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JESSE WILLIAM MENDEZ,
Plaintiff,
v.
GARY SWARTHOUT, et al.,
Defendants.

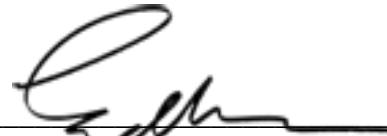
Case No. [13-cv-02797-EMC](#)

JUDGMENT

The petition for writ of habeas corpus is denied on the merits.

IT IS SO ORDERED AND ADJUDGED.

Dated: December 21, 2015



EDWARD M. CHEN
United States District Judge

APPENDIX D

S211296

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF CALIFORNIA

En Banc

In re JESSE MENDEZ on Habeas Corpus.

The petition for writ of habeas corpus is denied.

SUPREME COURT
FILED

APR 30 2014

Frank A. McGuire Clerk

Deputy



CANTIL-SAKAUYE

Chief Justice

ER 2727

APPENDIX E

RECEIVED

Filed 12/21/11

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED IN OFFICIAL REPORTS

California Rules of Court, rule 8.1115(a), prohibits courts and parties from citing or relying on opinions not certified for publication or ordered published, except as specified by rule 8.1115(b). This opinion has not been certified for publication or ordered published for purposes of rule 8.1115.

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FIRST APPELLATE DISTRICT

DIVISION FIVE

THE PEOPLE,

Plaintiff and Respondent,

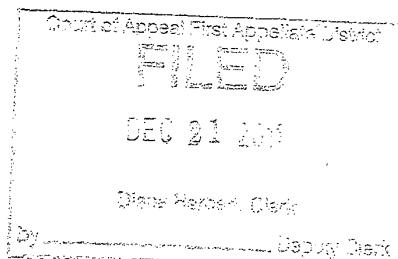
v.

JESSE WILLIAM MENDEZ,

Defendant and Appellant.

A128082

(Alameda County
Super. Ct. No. C158737)



A jury convicted Jesse William Mendez of attempted murder of a peace officer (Pen. Code, §§ 187, subd. (a), 664),¹ illegal possession of a firearm by a felon (§ 12021, subd. (a)(1)), and discharging a gun from a motor vehicle (§ 12034, subd. (d)). Mendez argues: (1) that the trial court erroneously excluded certain out-of-court statements as hearsay, thereby violating his Sixth Amendment confrontation rights; (2) that the trial court abused its discretion when it denied his request for a continuance, thereby violating his rights to due process and compulsory process; (3) that his trial counsel provided ineffective assistance; and (4) that the cumulative impact of the alleged errors requires reversal. Mendez also asks us to independently review the trial court's *in camera* proceedings, conducted pursuant to *Pitchess v. Superior Court* (1974) 11 Cal.3d 531 (*Pitchess*), to determine whether the trial court abused its discretion by withholding

¹ Unless otherwise noted, all further statutory references are to the Penal Code.

discoverable police personnel records. The People contend the trial court erred by staying Mendez's prison term for discharging a gun from a motor vehicle. We affirm.²

I. FACTUAL AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

Mendez was charged, by information, with attempted murder of a peace officer (§§ 187, subd. (a), 664; count one), possession of a firearm by a felon (§ 12021, subd. (a)(1); count two); and discharging a weapon from a motor vehicle (§ 12034, subd. (d); count three). It was alleged that the attempted murder was willful, deliberate, and premeditated (§ 664, subds. (e), (f)) and that Mendez, in counts one and three, personally used and intentionally discharged a firearm, causing great bodily injury (§§ 12022.5, subd. (a), 12022.7, subd. (a), 12022.53, subds. (b), (d)). Finally, it was alleged that Mendez had suffered a prior conviction for the sale, offer to sell, or transportation of a controlled substance (Health & Saf. Code, § 11352, subd. (a)).

Prior to trial, Mendez made a so-called *Pitchess* motion seeking discovery of potential impeachment information from the personnel records of four investigating officers. Following an in camera hearing, the court granted the motion with respect to three officers (Sergeant D. Longmire, Sergeant R. Wingate and Officer S. Millington.). The motion was apparently denied as to Sergeant T. Jones.³

Prosecution's Evidence

The Shooting

Oakland Police Officer Kevin McDonald testified that, shortly after midnight on May 19, 2007, he was on traffic duty, riding his motorcycle in full uniform, in East Oakland on 77th Avenue near MacArthur Boulevard. McDonald saw an older style, yellow Camaro run a stop sign. He followed the Camaro, going northbound on 77th

² Mendez has also filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus and request for judicial notice (No. A133724). By separate order, we grant the request for judicial notice and deny the habeas petition.

³ We say apparently because Jones's name is struck through in the court's protective order issued after the hearing. As we discuss *post*, Mendez fails to provide us with the full record of this proceeding.

Avenue and then made a right turn onto McArthur Boulevard. McDonald observed two people in the front seat of the car. He turned on his red light, his flashing lights, and his siren.

The Camaro eventually stopped, after making a turn onto Parker Avenue. McDonald stopped his motorcycle behind the Camaro at the intersection of Parker and MacArthur. There were streetlights illuminating the area, including one directly overhead. McDonald got off his motorcycle and was having difficulty attempting to retrieve his flashlight from his duty belt. McDonald also paused to disconnect the wire running from his helmet to the motorcycle's radio.

When McDonald approached the Camaro, he saw the driver had turned so that his face was in the open driver's window and he was looking back at McDonald. The street lamp illuminated the driver's face. McDonald could see the silhouette of the passenger, but could not see what the passenger was doing. McDonald continued to watch the driver and fumble for his flashlight as he approached the vehicle. He did not see any movement from the passenger.

When McDonald arrived at the driver's door, and before he was able to ask the driver for his license and registration, McDonald heard two gunshots and saw muzzle flash in the driver's lap area. He did not see a hand or the gun. McDonald felt the first bullet strike him in the center of his chest, where it lodged in his protective vest. The second shot went through his left pinkie finger. The passenger was not in McDonald's view when he was shot. But, McDonald testified that he never saw the passenger lean forward, across the driver's body, or into the driver's seat.

After McDonald was shot, he began to retreat to the back of the vehicle, to put the vehicle between himself and the shooter. The driver was still looking out of the vehicle, but McDonald could not tell what the passenger was doing. McDonald testified: "It looked like the driver was raising his [right] arm up with the gun as I was retreating." McDonald heard two more shots fired and turned to duck. McDonald pulled out his service weapon, but by that time the Camaro was fleeing southbound down Parker. Eventually, McDonald lost sight of the Camaro.

McDonald radioed for help. He said he had been shot by a white male and gave a description of the Camaro and the direction it had headed. After other officers responded to the scene, an ambulance arrived and transported McDonald to the hospital. As a result of the shooting, McDonald suffered internal and external bruising to his chest and nerve damage to his hand. He continues to experience pain and suffers occasional nightmares. He was off work for three months after the shooting.

At trial, McDonald identified Mendez as the driver of the Camaro and the person who shot him. He also indicated that Mendez wore his hair in corn rows at the time of the shooting. He also testified that all of the shots fired came from the driver's side window and that none of the shots fired came from anywhere else in the vehicle. McDonald testified: "The only one that could have had a shot is the driver. If the passenger was leaning forward in order to get that shot, I would have seen that."

McDonald was asked: "[A]re you certain that Mr. Mendez is the person who shot you?" He responded: "Yes, I am."

The Police Investigation

Oakland Police Officer Kevin Reynolds was also on traffic duty on May 19, 2007, in the vicinity of 77th Avenue and MacArthur Boulevard. Reynolds did not witness the shooting, but heard a series of two to three gunshots, a pause, and then another two to three gunshots coming from the area where he had seen McDonald make a traffic stop. Reynolds responded to the scene and found McDonald on the ground, just north of his motorcycle. McDonald told Reynolds that the shooter was "a male white driving a '70's Chevy Camaro that was yellow [and] in poor condition . . ." McDonald advised Reynolds that the Camaro went south on Parker. Reynolds passed this information along to other officers in the area. Officers canvassed witnesses and set up a perimeter to contain the scene and the suspect.

An evidence technician also responded to the scene of the shooting, but recovered no bullet casings. One bullet slug was located on the sidewalk. A fragment of a bullet was found on MacArthur Boulevard, in a gutter. A bullet hole was located in an exterior

panel of a house at 7850 MacArthur. A bullet was found inside the house. Another bullet slug was located inside the trauma plate of McDonald's protective vest.

An unoccupied vehicle matching McDonald's description was found two blocks south of the shooting scene, at Garfield and Parker. Mendez's identification card was found inside the glove compartment and turned over to Officer Pope. Four bullet casings were found on the driver's side of the car—three were found on the driver's side floorboard and another was found in the left-front door well.

A firearms expert examined the bullet fragments found at the scene and determined that they were all fired from the same gun. He also examined the casings and determined that they were all fired from the same gun. All of the bullets and casings were nine-millimeter and could not have been fired from a .22-caliber revolver. He determined that a Lorcini semi-automatic pistol was likely the firearm used. Casings are ejected from the right on such a gun. How the gun is held will, of course, impact where the casings end up.

Sergeant Barry Hofmann showed Mendez's identification card to McDonald at the hospital. Hofmann testified that McDonald looked at the card and said “ ‘Yeah, that’s the guy.’ ” Hofmann then broadcast Mendez's name over the radio and gave a physical description, including the fact that he had long brown hair. McDonald did not recall being shown any other photographs of Mendez while he was at the hospital.

Oakland Police Sergeant Tony Jones testified that he was the primary investigator on the case. On May 19, 2007, between 4 and 5 a.m., Jones received information “that the officers had an informant, a citizen informant, which essentially is a citizen who wants to remain anonymous but they want to give information, that saw the suspect hide underneath 2635 [Parker] after the shooting.”⁴

⁴ Jones did not have a name for the informant, but did receive a .22 caliber revolver from him. Jones testified: “He was given my number by Sergeant Wingate and he called me. . . . I figured if we ever needed him, Wingate could just call him. But the person didn’t want to get involved. There isn’t much I could do if a person doesn’t want to get involved like that.”

Police located Jeremiah Dye under the house. Dye was ultimately shot and killed by an Oakland police officer.⁵ Dye had long hair that was pulled back in a ponytail. Jones could not remember whether a gunshot residue test taken from Dye had been analyzed.

Jones testified that, at the time the informant's report was received, he already had Mendez's name from the identification found in the car. Although Mendez was identified as the suspect on May 19, he was not arrested until approximately two weeks later, in Sacramento. Mendez's head had been shaved.

On direct examination by the prosecutor, Jones was asked: “[I]n this particular case did you receive any information or leads that pointed to anyone else as the suspect in this case other than Mr. Mendez?” He was also asked “And are you aware of any physical evidence that points in any direction other than to Mr. Mendez as a suspect in this case?” Jones responded “No” to both questions.

Independent Identification

Tomeka Harper testified that, on May 19, 2007, a little after midnight, she was driving on Parker towards MacArthur. When she stopped at the intersection she saw a police officer on a motorcycle pulling over a yellow Camaro. She saw two people in the front seat of the car. She described the driver as follows: “He lookeded [sic] like he was mixed. It looked like he had long hair. It was pulled back in a ponytail, and he had on like a . . . gray, black and white like camouflage jacket.”⁶ Harper said the driver was not wearing his hair in dreadlocks or corn rows. At trial, Harper identified Mendez as the driver of the Camaro. She remembered the intersection being well-lit. She had not been drinking that night and was paying close attention because she “was being nosy.”

⁵ Sergeant Richard Andreotti testified that he attended the Dye autopsy. He observed a gunshot wound to Dye's left ear hole. He also observed scrapes, handcuff marks on Dye's wrists, and a dog bite.

⁶ A black, white, and gray sweatshirt was found in the Camaro.

After Harper turned right onto MacArthur, she lost sight of the Camaro and the officer. She stopped at a liquor store about a block away and then heard gunshots. She drove her car back to Parker and MacArthur, parked her car, and gave a statement to police. Later, Harper was driven by police to the Camaro parked on Garfield. She identified it as the same car she saw the officer stop. She also identified Mendez, as the driver of the Camaro, from a photographic lineup. She did not see the passenger as well, but testified that he may have been wearing a white t-shirt and “could have been mixed race or white.”

Testimony of Andre Stovall

Andre Stovall testified that he has known Mendez for “some years.” He said that during the late evening of May 18, 2007, and early morning of May 19, 2007, Stovall was drinking with friends around 72nd Avenue. Mendez arrived, in “an older model car . . . [¶] . . . [¶] [w]ith some Mexican dude” who may have been Mendez’s cousin. Both Mendez and his cousin wore their hair slicked back and in ponytails. They all were “hanging out” and drinking “most likely tequila.”

Stovall testified: “I had a gun and I showed it to [Mendez], you feel me? And his cousin, or whoever he was, had one and he showed it to me . . . I looked at it and gave it back to him and he gave it back to his cousin.” Stovall saw Mendez the next day. Mendez looked like he had his hair cut since Stovall saw him the night before. Mendez asked to use Stovall’s phone and Stovall let him.

Stovall did not remember Mendez saying anything about shooting at police. Stovall conceded, however, that he had previously given a taped statement to police, on May 30, 2007. He testified, however, that he did not remember what he had told police. Stovall’s taped police statement was played for the jury. On that taped statement, Stovall said Mendez was with the group on 72nd Avenue the evening before the shooting. Stovall saw someone hand a gun back to Mendez. Stovall said: “We was talkin’ ‘bout was [Mendez] really Caucasian. He a light Mexican.” They said “that [Mendez] was a white boy. And he don’t ever get pullt [sic] over by the police cuz he a white boy.” In response, Mendez said: “he’ud [sic] get down—he said . . . he’ud [sic] shoot if the police

pullt [sic] him over.” Stovall also told police that when he saw Mendez the following day, Mendez’s hair was cut and Mendez said “he got pullt [sic] over and he shot at the police.”

On cross-examination, Stovall testified that he only made the above statement to police after they threatened to make a negative report to his parole officer. Stovall said: “I told [the police] some stuff they wanted to hear because I wanted to go home.” Stovall testified that Mendez never said he had shot a police officer. However, he did not lie about Mendez getting a haircut.

Stovall conceded that it was not good to be known as a snitch in his neighborhood.

Defense Evidence

Joel Gay testified that he grew up in the same neighborhood as Mendez. On May 18, 2007, Gay had been on 72nd Avenue drinking and smoking marijuana with others. At one point, Mendez arrived and drank with the group. Gay testified that, after the shooting, about 20 Oakland police officers came to his house, handcuffed him, and took him in for questioning. Gay testified that he was threatened and coerced by police to make incriminating statements about Mendez. He said that the officers took three different statements from him, but only recorded the last one. Gay said that he first told officers that he had never seen Mendez with a gun because that was the truth. But, Gay said: “I was directly told to say that I saw Jesse with a gun.” At trial, Gay said that Mendez never told him that he had shot an officer. Gay filed an internal affairs complaint regarding Sergeant Longmire.

On cross-examination, Gay testified that Mendez came by his house the day after the shooting. Mendez told Gay: “ ‘Man, I’m kind of hot, man. I need you to do something for me. [¶] . . . [¶] Let me get some money.’ ” Gay did not ask Mendez what he meant. But, he did give him “enough [money] to get a room.” The prosecutor also played Gay’s taped police statement for the jury. During the taped statement, Gay told officers that he had seen Mendez the night of the shooting, that Mendez had a gun, and that Mendez said he was going to shoot if he was pulled over by police. Gay also told police that Mendez came to his house the next day and said: “ ‘Soon as I got to 77th and

Mac, a motorcycle come, whoooop! I pulled over—license and reg—PAH PAH PAH PAH PAH POP.’ ”

Oakland Police Officer Lesa Leonis testified that she was on patrol, on May 19, 2007, and responded to Garfield and Parker. She testified that Officer Pope gave her a wallet-sized photograph of a male adult and a child. She and Officer Jiminez took the photo to the hospital and showed it to McDonald. McDonald was “unsure” whether the photograph showed the shooter. Leonis testified that she did not recognize anyone in court that was in the photograph. She remembered only that it showed a “light complected” male. She was not sure what happened to the photograph.⁷

Officer John Fukuda and Officer Jamin Creed both testified that they responded to 2635 Parker, on May 19, 2007. While he was at 2635 Parker, Fukuda heard someone yell “‘Oakland police, show me your hands,’ ” and then, within a matter of seconds, Fukuda heard a gunshot. Creed took a gunshot residue test sample from the body of Jeremiah Dye.

Sergeant James Rullamas was Jones’s partner in the investigation of the shooting of McDonald. At approximately 5:00 a.m. on May 19, 2007, he responded to the 2600 block of Parker because of a report that “the suspect was in custody.” When he arrived “the suspect [was] still on the ground” but was deceased. Jones was also present.

The parties stipulated that Mendez had suffered a felony conviction in 1999.

Closing Arguments

In his closing argument, Mendez’s trial counsel conceded that Mendez was driving the Camaro, but argued that the People had not proved, beyond a reasonable doubt, that he was the shooter. In support, Mendez’s trial counsel pointed to the missing photograph of a man with a small child, the lighting conditions at the scene of the shooting, McDonald’s preoccupation with his flashlight, and the physical location of the bullets and casings—in the hopes of discrediting McDonald’s testimony and pointing the finger at the passenger. Mendez’s trial counsel also argued, without objection: “[S]omeone

⁷ Jones did not recall ever seeing a photo of Mendez with a small child.

said that they had seen the shooter exit the vehicle down on Parker. This is an anonymous informant. . . [H]e also observed that person go underneath a house at 2635 Parker Avenue. And of course this raises the next major question in this case, and that is the obvious question, is the shooter under that house? Yes, he was. That was Jeremiah Dye." In rebuttal, the prosecutor responded: "Who came in here and said the dead guy under the house was even in the car? Not one person."

Verdict and Sentence

The jury convicted Mendez of all three counts. The jury found the allegations of personal and intentional discharge of a firearm true, but found the great bodily injury and premeditation allegations "not true."⁸ Mendez was sentenced to a term of life with the possibility of parole, plus 23 years. The court imposed and stayed a term on count three, pursuant to section 654. Mendez filed a timely notice of appeal.

II. DISCUSSION

Mendez asks us to conduct an independent review of the trial court's in camera proceedings, conducted pursuant to *Pitchess, supra*, 11 Cal.3d 531, to determine whether the trial court abused its discretion by withholding discoverable personnel records. Mendez also argues: (1) that the trial court erroneously excluded certain out-of-court statements as hearsay, thereby violating his Sixth Amendment confrontation rights; (2) that the trial court abused its discretion when it denied his request for a continuance, thereby violating his rights to due process and compulsory process; (3) that his trial counsel provided ineffective assistance; and (4) that the cumulative impact of the alleged errors requires reversal. The People contend the trial court erred by staying Mendez's prison term for discharging a gun from a motor vehicle. We address each argument in turn.

⁸ Given the finding on premeditation, the jury apparently did not credit either Stovall's or Gay's taped police statements. Accordingly, we do not consider any evidence from those statements in weighing the prejudicial effect of any error on appeal. We also do not describe their allegations of threatening and coercive police conduct in any detail.

A. *Pitchess Discovery*

Mendez asks us to independently review the trial court's in camera *Pitchess* proceedings to determine whether the trial court abused its discretion by withholding discoverable personnel records. Ordinarily, a trial court's decision on the discoverability of material in police personnel files is reviewed for abuse of discretion. (*People v. Mooc* (2001) 26 Cal.4th 1216, 1228.) We are unable to conduct such a review in this case, however, because Mendez has not provided us with the reporter's transcript from the *Pitchess* hearing, the sealed reporter's transcript from the in camera review, or the sealed personnel records submitted for in camera review. The record before us contains only the moving and opposition papers, the clerk's docket and minutes from the *Pitchess* hearing, and a copy of a "protective order for records ordered disclosed pursuant to *Pitchess* motion."⁹ Mendez has not sought to augment or correct the record on appeal. Because Mendez has provided an inadequate record, we deem his *Pitchess* argument forfeited and do not address it further. (See *People v. Barton* (1978) 21 Cal.3d 513, 519–520 [appellant's duty to provide record adequate for review]; *Wagner v. Wagner* (2008) 162 Cal.App.4th 249, 259 ["absence of a record concerning what actually occurred at the hearing precludes a determination that the court abused its discretion"].)

B. *Exclusion of Evidence*

We next address Mendez's contention that the trial court erred by excluding, on hearsay grounds, evidence concerning the out-of-court statements of the unidentified informant relating to the presence of "the suspect" under the house at 2635 Parker. Mendez also argues here that the trial court's exclusion of the out-of-court statements, violated his right to confront the witnesses against him, under the Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

⁹ The clerk's docket and minutes from the date of the hearing state that a *Pitchess* motion was "granted" and indicate that a reporter was present. The docket and minutes also provide: "Order signed by Court. Court conducts in-camera hearing. Court orders declaration sealed. Compliance Date: 1/30/09."

“ ‘Hearsay evidence’ is evidence of a statement that was made other than by a witness while testifying at the hearing and that is offered to prove the truth of the matter stated. [¶] . . . Except as provided by law, hearsay evidence is inadmissible.” (Evid. Code, § 1200, subds. (a), (b).) We review a trial court’s ruling on the admissibility of evidence for abuse of discretion. (*People v. Pirwani* (2004) 119 Cal.App.4th 770, 787; *People v. Ortiz* (1995) 38 Cal.App.4th 377, 386.) “No judgment shall be set aside . . . on the ground of . . . the improper admission or rejection of evidence, . . . unless, after an examination of the entire cause, including the evidence, the court shall be of the opinion that the error complained of has resulted in a miscarriage of justice.” (Cal. Const., Art. VI, § 13.)

“[A] criminal defendant states a violation of the Confrontation Clause by showing that he was prohibited from engaging in otherwise appropriate cross-examination designed to show a prototypical form of bias on the part of the witness, and thereby ‘to expose to the jury the facts from which jurors . . . could appropriately draw inferences relating to the reliability of the witness.’ [Citation.]” (*Delaware v. Van Arsdall* (1986) 475 U.S. 673, 680.) “[T]he constitutionally improper denial of a defendant’s opportunity to impeach a witness for bias, like other Confrontation Clause errors, is subject to *Chapman* harmless-error analysis. The correct inquiry is whether, assuming that the damaging potential of the cross-examination were fully realized, a reviewing court might nonetheless say that the error was harmless beyond a reasonable doubt. Whether such an error is harmless in a particular case depends upon a host of factors, all readily accessible to reviewing courts. These factors include the importance of the witness’ testimony in the prosecution’s case, whether the testimony was cumulative, the presence or absence of evidence corroborating or contradicting the testimony of the witness on material points, the extent of cross-examination otherwise permitted, and, of course, the overall strength of the prosecution’s case. [Citations.]” (*Id.* at p. 684.)

1. *Background*

Mendez complains on appeal of two instances in which his trial counsel unsuccessfully attempted to elicit an informant's out-of-court statements to police regarding observations of "the suspect" under the house at 2635 Parker Avenue.

In the first instance complained of, Jones testified, on cross-examination, that officers went to 2635 Parker Avenue after receiving a tip from an anonymous informant. Jones was then asked: "And that person had advised the investigating officers that he had actually seen the person who had done the shooting go underneath that house?" The People objected, on hearsay grounds. Mendez's trial counsel attempted to justify admission of the evidence as nonhearsay. Specifically, he argued: "Your Honor, it shows that the police acted upon it as a result of that information. It shows why they did what they did." The trial court sustained the prosecutor's objection.

In the second part of Mendez's argument, he complains that the court improperly redacted a DVD created as part of the investigation into Dye's shooting. The court noted that it was particularly concerned with the following statement, by Jones, on the DVD: "'I'm told we were—the officers were led to this location by a witness that seen the entire incident and saw the suspect hide underneath this house here.'" Regarding the court's hearsay concerns, the following discussion occurred on the record:

"[DEFENSE COUNSEL]: Actually, this is just a statement of what had been given to Jones by others there, and it goes to his, meaning Sergeant Jones's, state of mind in the course of this investigation as to the facts and circumstances of what was going on. And even if it is hearsay, [the] state of mind exception should resolve that. And also the fact that it's part of his investigation process as well as . . . if this is hearsay, all of this has actually been testified to by some witnesses in this case.

"THE COURT: Well, I understand that witnesses may have testified to a lot of this stuff, but it's still hearsay. Why is his state of mind relevant?

"[DEFENSE COUNSEL]: It's relevant as far as what he was doing by way of his investigation of the case."

The court ordered Jones's statement redacted before the DVD was played for the jury.

2. Analysis

On appeal, Mendez concedes that the out-of-court statements were not admissible for their implied truth, i.e., that the person found under the house on Parker Avenue (Dye) was the person who shot McDonald. But he asserts that the out-of-court statements should nevertheless have been admitted to impeach Jones's testimony that he had not received "any information or leads that pointed to anyone else as the suspect in this case other than Mr. Mendez." Specifically, Mendez contends: "[T]he evidence that the citizen told police he had seen the shooting and had seen the shooter hide under the house directly contradicted Sergeant Jones's direct examination testimony Since this was not an offer to prove the truth of the matter asserted, but to prove knowledge, the evidence was not hearsay and the court erred in sustaining the prosecutor's hearsay objection."

First, we note that, in both instances, Mendez sought to admit double or even triple hearsay. Ultimately, in both instances, Mendez sought to admit a statement made by the informant to unnamed police officers, who then relayed the statements to Jones. For simplicity's sake, we focus on the first level of hearsay—what the informant purportedly said—and treat the statement as if the informant spoke directly to Jones.

Evidence of a declarant's statement is not hearsay if it " 'is offered to prove that the statement imparted certain information to the hearer and that the hearer, believing such information to be true, acted in conformity with that belief. The statement is not hearsay, since it is the hearer's reaction to the statement that is the relevant fact sought to be proved, not the truth of the matter asserted in the statement.' [Citation.]" (*People v. Scalzi* (1981) 126 Cal.App.3d 901, 907.) But, "[a] hearsay objection to an out-of-court statement may not be overruled simply by identifying a nonhearsay purpose for admitting the statement. The trial court must also find that the nonhearsay purpose is relevant to an issue in dispute." (*People v. Armendariz* (1984) 37 Cal.3d 573, 585, superseded by statute on other grounds as stated in *People v. Cottle* (2006) 39 Cal.4th 246, 255.)

“ ‘Relevant evidence’ means evidence, *including evidence relevant to the credibility of a witness* or hearsay declarant, having any tendency in reason to prove or disprove any disputed fact that is of consequence to the determination of the action.” (Evid. Code, § 210, italics added.) Mendez’s trial counsel only argued that the informant’s statement showed why “[the police] did what they did.” The nonhearsay purpose identified by Mendez at trial was irrelevant. There were no disputed issues with respect to why police responded to 2635 Parker.

Mendez’ theory on appeal is different, and he now argues that the evidence was admissible for the nonhearsay purpose of impeaching Jones’s testimony that there was no evidence or leads pointing to a “suspect” other than Mendez.¹⁰ (See *People v. Archer* (2000) 82 Cal.App.4th 1380, 1391–1392 [error to exclude an out-of-court statement offered for limited purpose of impeachment].) Evidence Code section 780 provides, in relevant part: “Except as otherwise provided by statute, the court or jury may consider in determining the credibility of a witness any matter that has any tendency in reason to prove or disprove the truthfulness of his testimony at the hearing”

“Cross-examination to test the credibility of a prosecuting witness in a criminal case should be given wide latitude. [Citations.]” (*Curry v. Superior Court* (1970) 2 Cal.3d 707, 715.) But, nonetheless, there are several problems with Mendez’s theory of admissibility. First, Mendez’s trial counsel never argued that the out-of-court statements were admissible for impeachment purposes or that exclusion of such evidence would violate his right to confrontation.¹¹ Second, even assuming that Mendez’s appellate arguments had been preserved, the out-of-court statement had limited impeachment

¹⁰ Mendez also asserts that the evidence also impeached Jones’s positive response to the following question: “Since you were the primary investigator and looked at all of the evidence and statements, et cetera, did you rule out the passenger of the yellow Camaro at the incident location as a possible shooter of Officer McDonald?” We fail to see how the excluded evidence tends to suggest Jones’s response was untrue.

¹¹ Recognizing as much, Mendez argues on appeal that his trial counsel was prejudicially ineffective to the extent “trial counsel failed to proffer adequate argument . . . in support of the admission of the evidence”

value. The informant's out-of-court statement would only tend to impeach Jones if: (1) the informant said that he saw the shooting, and (2) the informant said that he saw the person who shot McDonald hide under the house at 2635 Parker. The record does not tell us whether these conditions are satisfied. Jones's statement that the informant saw "the entire incident" is vague, given the multiple locations involved. If the informant merely said that he saw someone exit the Camaro and hide under the house or that he saw someone who looked like Mendez hide under the house, then the fact that Jones had been told of such a statement would not tend to suggest that his testimony on direct examination was untrue. Contrary to Mendez's suggestion, we cannot simply assume, from the prosecution's hearsay objection, that the informant did, in fact, see the shooting. Nor can we assume as much from Jones's one-word response to a compound question.¹² The record does not compel us to conclude that the out-of-court statements would, in fact, impeach Jones. (See *People v. Ramos* (1997) 15 Cal.4th 1133, 1177–1178 [“burden of producing evidence sufficient to establish the necessary foundation” falls to the proponent and the reviewing court “will not assume error in the absence of a record affirmatively supporting such a finding”]; *People v. Holland* (1962) 204 Cal.App.2d 77, 81 [“[w]here a question to which an objection is sustained does not of itself indicate that the answer will be favorable to the party seeking to introduce the testimony, before the ruling will be reviewed on appeal, an offer of what is proposed to be proven first must be made to the trial court so that the reviewing court may determine whether such evidence would have been material and beneficial to the party offering it”].)

In any event, even if we assume that the informant's out-of-court statement was as favorable as Mendez suggests and that exclusion was error, there is no possibility that the trial court's evidentiary ruling prejudiced Mendez, regardless of whether error is judged under the state standard for erroneous evidentiary rulings (*People v. Cunningham* (2001)

¹² Jones was asked: “And the information . . . that the officers acted upon when they went to 2635 Parker Avenue was that of the observations of the person who indicated he had seen the shooting; is that correct?” He responded: “Yes.”

25 Cal.4th 926, 998–999; *People v. Watson* (1956) 46 Cal.2d 818, 836), or, as Mendez argues, under the standard required in assessing federal constitutional error. (*Chapman v. California* (1967) 386 U.S. 18, 24; *Delaware v. Van Arsdall*, *supra*, 475 U.S. at p. 684.)

Reversal might be required if Mendez could establish some basis for admitting the informant’s statement for the truth of the matter asserted. But, it is undisputed that the informant’s out-of-court statement could not have been admitted for its truth. Thus, there is no way that any error in excluding the evidence for a limited purpose forestalled Mendez from presenting a defense. Jones did not witness the shooting. Jones’s role, as the primary homicide investigator, was merely to summarize the evidence collected in the case. In addition to Jones’s testimony that he was not aware of any evidence or leads pointing to a suspect other than Mendez, the jury also was presented with strong direct and circumstantial evidence that Mendez was the shooter.

Mendez did not testify or present other direct evidence that Dye was the shooter. Instead, he asked the jury to speculate, from the lighting conditions, McDonald’s preoccupation with his flashlight, the missing photograph, and the unanalyzed gunshot residue kit that such was the case—without ever even establishing that Dye *was* the passenger in the Camaro. Moreover, Jones’s partner in the investigation, Rullamas, was called as a witness by the defense and testified, without objection, that Dye was a “suspect” in the shooting of McDonald, and defense counsel was allowed to argue, without objection, that the anonymous informant actually saw the shooting, and saw the alleged shooter (inferentially Dye) go under the house on Parker Avenue. Even assuming that Dye was the passenger in the Camaro, we do not view this as a close case. McDonald himself testified that he was certain that Mendez was the shooter. McDonald said that he saw the driver raise the gun as he retreated and never saw the passenger lean into the driver’s seat. Another witness independently identified Mendez as the driver of the Camaro. Mendez’s identification card was found inside the Camaro, where all of the casings were found on the driver’s side. The firearms expert testified that none of the recovered bullets and casings could have been fired from the .22-caliber revolver obtained from the anonymous informant. Finally, it was undisputed that Mendez left the

area and cut his hair after the shooting. There is no reasonable likelihood that the jury would have rejected all of this evidence if the out-of-court statements had been admitted for the limited purpose of impeaching Jones.

C. *Continuance*

Mendez also argues that the trial court abused its discretion in denying his request for a mid-trial continuance. He claims that the trial court's ruling violated his right to due process and to compulsory process under the Sixth Amendment.¹³

1. *Background*

After the defense had called eight witnesses, Mendez's trial counsel notified the court that he had no more available witnesses. The following exchange occurred on the record: “[DEFENSE COUNSEL]: There's several other officers we have subpoenaed and have been trying to get in here, your Honor. Officer Roche was subpoenaed long ago. He never appeared and he's one of the ones that we first gave you the information on the he had been served and he has never appeared or contacted us, so we need to have him in here. . . . [¶] . . . [¶] The others though are more problematic to the extent there's Hector Jiminez, who is often mentioned here, but he is really significant as far as his statement in his report, and we have had no way of getting in touch with him. Apparently he has left the department. So [the prosecutor] advised me there's nothing he could do to get in touch with him. He has no way of getting in touch with him. . . . They sent back a statement once efforts were made to subpoena him indicating that he was no longer with the department, no longer with OPD, unable to serve. [¶] It would seem to me there ought to be some records of this person there at OPD and some means that they could get in touch with him . . . because he's really a crucial witness to the extent that he was the

¹³ Mendez did not raise his constitutional arguments at trial and, accordingly, we could deem them forfeited. (See *People v. Rodrigues* (1994) 8 Cal.4th 1060, 1126, fn. 30; *People v. Daniels* (2009) 176 Cal.App.4th 304, 320, fn. 10.) However, assuming he has not forfeited them because they merely restate, under alternative but similar legal principles and facts, claims “otherwise identical” to those that were properly preserved (see *People v. Partida* (2005) 37 Cal.4th 428, 436), and to forestall Mendez's ineffective assistance of counsel claim, we will address his claim on the merits.

officer that went over to the hospital with this now lost photograph of the person with the child and . . . other evidence suggests that was Mr. Mendez with his child because it was taken from that vehicle as possible identifying information. [¶] And the final one is Officer Randy Pope. He did not appear either after being subpoenaed. . . .”

The court ordered the prosecutor to make all reasonable efforts to bring Pope and Roche before the court. Defense counsel asked: “Could we get some kind of order to at least get [Jiminez’s] address . . . so we can try to serve him?” The court responded: “If you want some kind of Court order, get me a Court order. [¶] . . . [¶] I don’t know [that] even a Court order is going to do that either. OPD, they’re going to go to their city attorney. The city attorney is going to object to it and then it will be another two weeks before we find out.”

On the following Monday, defense counsel explained: “I have no witnesses at this time. . . . [W]e had previously subpoenaed Officer Roche and he has never responded to our subpoena, and that was very early on in the case. [¶] In addition to that, we resubpoenaed him, but I understand that he may not be around for a while. . . . And we also attempted to subpoena for today Officer Randy Pope. He was due in last Thursday. He has not responded to the subpoena. . . . [¶] But that’s the situation as it exists now. Those are the last . . . witnesses we would hope to call, even though we had tried to subpoena . . . Sergeant Wingate, but we can do without him.^[14] We actually sent a subpoena to him. He was never served. [¶] . . . [¶] Hector Jiminez. I forgot about him. But he’s another officer, quote, who’s no longer with the department, end quote, and we’ve been trying to locate him through Mr. Rosenblum and through the City Attorney’s Office

“THE COURT: But in any case, he’s not here. So are you going to rest then?

¹⁴ Wingate was present at 2635 Parker. Wingate is no longer with the Oakland Police Department.

“[DEFENSE COUNSEL]: I was going to ask that this matter be continued until we can get these witnesses here. I understand that Officer Roche could be back at the earliest Thursday.

“THE COURT: No, I won’t continue it to Thursday.

“[DEFENSE COUNSEL]: I would then be asking that a warrant be issued for Officer Roche. He’s been previously subpoenaed and he’s not appeared in response to that subpoena. [¶] . . . [¶] So has Officer Pope been subpoenaed and has not responded to that subpoena.”

The prosecutor told the court: “. . . I do understand that a subpoena was issued for Officer Roche to appear in court on the 31st of December, and I am aware that Officer Roche did not appear. However, as I explained to the Court, I believe off the record, is that during that time frame the OPD liaison unit was on furlough. So I’m not sure that Officer Roche ever received a subpoena to come to court. [¶] In addition to that, I am aware that [defense counsel] has made attempts to contact Officer Roche and in fact . . . either late Thursday or early Friday resubpoenaed Officer Roche and Officer Pope. [¶] I’ve talked with Maxine Dong at the OPD court liaison unit. What she explains to me is on Friday she did immediately send subpoenas to Officer Pope at his work location. He’s not in the police administration building. She also E-mailed him and immediately got an auto reply he is on vacation. She has no clue as to when Officer Pope is going to be back here in order to address the subpoena. [¶] . . . [¶] With regards to Officer Roche, . . . she does not expect him until . . . Thursday. She’s not 100 percent sure on that . . .”

The court denied the continuance, stating: “All right. So basically because you don’t have any witnesses you’re going to have to rest. You’ve asked for a continuance. I’ve denied that. We’re not waiting until Thursday.” However, the court did issue warrants for the arrest of Pope and Roche. The next day, the prosecutor told the court that he had been informed that Pope had been on death leave all of the previous week and was expected to be so for the remainder of the week. Mendez’s trial counsel asked that the warrant request be withdrawn with respect to Pope.

2. *Analysis*

“Continuances shall be granted only upon a showing of good cause. . . .” (§ 1050, subd. (e).) “When a continuance is sought to secure the attendance of a witness, the defendant must establish ‘he had exercised due diligence to secure the witness’s attendance, that the witness’s expected testimony was material and not cumulative, that the testimony could be obtained within a reasonable time, and that the facts to which the witness would testify could not otherwise be proven.’ [Citation.]” (*People v. Jenkins* (2000) 22 Cal.4th 900, 1037.) “‘‘The granting or denial of a motion for continuance in the midst of a trial traditionally rests within the sound discretion of the trial judge who must consider not only the benefit which the moving party anticipates but also the likelihood that such benefit will result, the burden on other witnesses, jurors and the court and, above all, whether substantial justice will be accomplished or defeated by a granting of the motion.’’’ (*People v. Fudge* (1994) 7 Cal.4th 1075, 1105.) “In the lack of a showing of an abuse of discretion or of prejudice to the defendant, a denial of his motion for a continuance cannot result in a reversal of a judgment of conviction. [Citations.]” (*People v. Laursen* (1972) 8 Cal.3d 192, 204.)

“[T]he denial of a continuance may be so arbitrary as to deny due process. [Citation.] However, not every denial of a request for more time can be said to violate due process, even if the party seeking the continuance thereby fails to offer evidence. [Citation.] Although ‘a myopic insistence upon expeditiousness in the face of a justifiable request for delay can render the right to defend with counsel an empty formality[,] . . . [t]here are no mechanical tests for deciding when a denial of a continuance is so arbitrary as to violate due process.’ [Citation.] Instead, ‘[t]he answer must be found in the circumstances present in every case, particularly in the reasons presented to the trial judge at the time the request is denied.’ [Citations.]” (*People v. Beames* (2007) 40 Cal.4th 907, 920–921; accord, *Ungar v. Sarafite* (1964) 376 U.S. 575, 589.)

A defendant’s Sixth Amendment rights include “the right ‘to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor.’ . . . [¶] . . . [¶] A defendant’s constitutional

right to compulsory process is violated when the government interferes with the exercise of his right to present witnesses on his own behalf. [Citations.]” (*In re Martin* (1987) 44 Cal.3d 1, 29, 30.) It must also be shown that there is “a causal link between the misconduct and [the defendant’s] inability to present witnesses on his own behalf.” (*Id.* at p. 31) In addition, the defendant “‘must at least make some plausible showing of how [the] testimony [of the witness] would have been both material and favorable to his defense.’ [Citation.]” (*Id.* at p. 32.)

The trial court did not abuse its discretion in denying the continuance. With respect to former officers Jiminez and Wingate, Mendez did not show that either witness’s testimony could have been obtained within a reasonable time. Mendez also failed to show that Jiminez’s or Wingate’s testimony would be material, noncumulative, and could not otherwise be proven. In fact, Mendez’s argument with respect to materiality is almost entirely devoid of citation to the record. Mendez’s trial counsel even conceded, at the time he moved for a continuance, that “we can do without [Wingate.]” On appeal, Mendez offers nothing but speculation when he argues that Wingate could have established that the informant’s out-of-court statement was a spontaneous statement. With respect to Jiminez, we fail to see how he could have added anything to Leonis’s testimony regarding McDonald’s inability to identify the adult in the missing photograph. And there is no evidence in the record that the photograph in fact showed Mendez. Good cause was not shown for a continuance to obtain either Jiminez’s or Wingate’s testimony.

With respect to Pope and Roche, it is undisputed that Mendez did properly subpoena the officers through the Oakland Police Department. (See *Jensen v. Superior Court* (2008) 160 Cal.App.4th 266, 272 [“service is complete upon receipt of the subpoena by the superior or the designated agent, even though the actual delivery to the officer has not yet occurred”]; § 1328, subd. (c).)¹⁵ It is also true that “[o]ur judicial

¹⁵ Section 1328, subdivision (c), provides: “If any peace officer . . . is required as a witness before any court or magistrate in any action or proceeding in connection with a

system is grounded on the sanctity of compulsory process, and it operates on the assumption that a subpoenaed witness—whether a police officer or the President of the United States—will either obey an order to appear in court or present his excuses sufficiently in advance of the appearance date” (*Gaines v. Municipal Court* (1980) 101 Cal.App.3d 556, 560.) Nonetheless, the trial court did not abuse its discretion in denying the motion for a continuance. Mendez has not shown that either Pope or Roche would have said anything materially helpful to his defense. In this respect, this case is distinguishable from the authority relied on by Mendez, in which materiality was not disputed. (See *Jensen v. Superior Court*, *supra*, 160 Cal.App.4th at p. 274; *Mendez v. Superior Court* (2008) 162 Cal.App.4th 827, 830–831; *Gaines v. Municipal Court*, *supra*, 101 Cal.App.3d at pp. 559–560.)

Mendez made no offer of proof with respect to either officer. The record does show that Pope gave Leonis the wallet-sized photograph of a male adult and a child that was removed from the Camaro. But, Mendez did not assert that Pope would testify that it was Mendez shown in the photograph. Nor was there any showing that Pope would be available to testify within a reasonable period of time. In fact, he was out on an undefined “death leave.” With respect to Roche, the record shows that he would have been available “at the earliest” within about three days. The record shows only that Roche was the officer who shot Dye, and there is absolutely nothing in the record to suggest how he would have been able to provide material and noncumulative evidence in this case. Accordingly, we cannot say that the trial court abused its discretion. For the same reasons, we also reject Mendez’s constitutional claims.

matter regarding an event or transaction which he or she has perceived or investigated in the course of his or her duties, a criminal subpoena issued pursuant to this chapter requiring his or her attendance may be served either by delivering a copy to the peace officer personally or by delivering two copies to his or her immediate superior or agent designated by his or her immediate superior to receive the service”

D. *Ineffective Assistance of Counsel*

Finally, Mendez contends he was denied effective assistance of counsel because his trial counsel failed to introduce, as promised during his opening statement, evidence that Dye had previously been convicted of a felony and was on parole at the time of the shooting. Under both the Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution and article I, section 15, of the California Constitution, a criminal defendant has the right to the effective assistance of counsel. (*People v. Ledesma* (1987) 43 Cal.3d 171, 215.) This right “entitles [the defendant] to ‘the reasonably competent assistance of an attorney acting as [the defendant’s] diligent conscientious advocate.’ [Citations.]” (*Ibid.*) To establish ineffective assistance of counsel, a defendant must show: (1) that counsel’s performance was so deficient that it fell below an objective standard of reasonableness, under prevailing professional norms and (2) that the deficient performance was prejudicial, rendering the results of the trial unreliable or fundamentally unfair. (*Strickland v. Washington* (1984) 466 U.S. 668, 688, 692; *People v. Ledesma*, at pp. 216–217.)

A defendant is entitled to raise an ineffective assistance claim on appeal instead of by way of a petition for writ of habeas corpus. But, on direct appeal, this court is limited to the record on appeal and may not speculate about matters outside that record. (*People v. Pope* (1979) 23 Cal.3d 412, 425–426, abrogated on other grounds, as stated in *People v. Berryman* (1993) 6 Cal.4th 1048, 1081, fn. 10.) “When . . . defense counsel’s reasons for conducting the defense case in a particular way are not readily apparent from the record, we will not assume inadequacy of representation unless there could have been ‘ ‘no conceivable tactical purpose’ ’ for counsel’s actions. [Citations.]” (*People v. Earp* (1999) 20 Cal.4th 826, 896.)

Mendez suggests that we can judicially notice facts that show a motive for Dye to commit the shooting—to avoid being searched and found with a gun.¹⁶ The record does

¹⁶ Mendez filed a request for judicial notice of a *probation* minute order from the Alameda Superior Court. It states that Dye was convicted of a felony in 2004, given five

not reveal why Mendez's trial counsel failed to introduce the evidence that Mendez now asks us to judicially notice. But, we see several plausible reasons. As Mendez concedes, the evidence would have only tended to show a possible motive for Dye to have committed the shooting. As we have observed earlier, there was no admissible evidence that Dye was even in the car with Mendez at the time of the shooting. Therefore, the evidence could well have been excluded by the trial court, pursuant to Evidence Code section 352. Although a defendant has the right to present evidence of third party culpability if it is capable of raising a reasonable doubt about the defendant's guilt, the evidence must do more than merely show a motive or opportunity to commit the crime. (*People v. Hall* (1986) 41 Cal.3d 826, 833; *People v. Basuta* (2001) 94 Cal.App.4th 370, 386–387.) “[T]here must be direct or circumstantial evidence linking the third person to the actual perpetration of the crime.” (*People v. Hall*, at p. 833.) Furthermore, Mendez had also been convicted of a felony at the time of the shooting. Thus, Mendez's trial counsel could very well have concluded that introducing the evidence of Dye's status would have reinforced the prosecution's own argument with respect to Mendez's motive.¹⁷ We cannot say that the strategy chosen by Mendez's trial counsel was one that

years probation, and subject to a search condition. The People opposed the request. We originally deferred ruling on Mendez's request. We have discretion to take judicial notice of the records of a court of this state. (Evid. Code, § 452, subd. (d).) However, we ordinarily do not take judicial notice of matters not presented to the trial court. (*People v. Preslie* (1977) 70 Cal.App.3d 486, 493.) We note that, to the extent Mendez's claim of ineffective assistance of counsel requires consideration of facts outside the record, it is more appropriately considered in the habeas corpus proceeding. (See *People v. Mendoza Tello* (1997) 15 Cal.4th 264, 266–267.) Nonetheless, because the minute order is a proper subject of judicial notice and is essential to considering an issue raised on appeal, we grant the request for judicial notice.

¹⁷ The prosecutor argued to the jury: “Remember, when the lights and siren comes on, that's when [Mendez] starts thinking. He knows he has a gun and should not have a gun. He's a felon. Felons aren't supposed to have guns. Now, on top of all of that, he's been drinking. You have a motorcycle cop behind you. You've had a little bit of alcohol and you're a felon in possession of a gun. You got choices to make.”

competent counsel would not elect, even if Dye was subject to a warrantless search condition and Mendez was not. Mendez's ineffective assistance claim fails.

E. *Cumulative Error*

Finally, Mendez argues that the cumulative effect of the trial court's errors requires reversal of the judgment. We have rejected Mendez's arguments on the merits. Mendez was entitled to a trial "in which his guilt or innocence was fairly adjudicated." (*People v. Hill* (1998) 17 Cal.4th 800, 844.) He received such a trial.

F. *Stay of Punishment on Count Three Pursuant to Section 654*

In their respondents' brief, the People ask us to address, pursuant to section 1252, whether the trial court improperly stayed punishment on count three, discharging a weapon from a motor vehicle.¹⁸

Section 654, subdivision (a) provides: "An act or omission that is punishable in different ways by different provisions of law shall be punished under the provision that provides for the longest potential term of imprisonment, but in no case shall the act or omission be punished under more than one provision. An acquittal or conviction and sentence under any one bars a prosecution for the same act or omission under any other." The protections of section 654 have been extended to cases "in which several offenses are committed during a course of conduct deemed to be indivisible in time. [Citation.]" (*People v. Palacios* (2007) 41 Cal.4th 720, 727.)

An exception to section 654 has been applied in "multiple victim" situations. "The purpose of the protection against multiple punishment is to insure that the defendant's punishment will be commensurate with his criminal liability. A defendant who commits an act of violence with the intent to harm more than one person or by a means likely to cause harm to several persons is more culpable than a defendant who harms only one person. For example, a defendant who chooses a means of murder that

¹⁸ Section 1252 provides, in relevant part: "On an appeal by a defendant, the appellate court shall, in addition to the issues raised by the defendant, consider and pass upon all rulings of the trial court adverse to the State which it may be requested to pass upon by the Attorney General."

places a planeload of passengers in danger, or results in injury to many persons, is properly subject to greater punishment than a defendant who chooses a means that harms only a single person. This distinction between an act of violence against the person that violates more than one statute and such an act that harms more than one person is well settled. Section 654 is not “. . . applicable where . . . one act has two results each of which is an act of violence against the person of a separate individual.” [Citations.]’ [Citation.]” (*People v. Oates* (2004) 32 Cal.4th 1048, 1063.)

“The question whether section 654 is factually applicable . . . is for the trial court, and the law gives the trial court broad latitude in making this determination. Its findings on this question must be upheld on appeal if there is any substantial evidence to support them. [Citations.]” (*People v. Hutchins* (2001) 90 Cal.App.4th 1308, 1312.)

At sentencing, the People conceded that section 654 applied to count three and that the punishment should be stayed. Now, the People argue “this was an improper concession on [their] part . . . because section 654 does not apply to multiple offenses in which there are separate victims.” We may review their new argument on appeal. “It is well settled . . . that the court acts ‘in excess of its jurisdiction’ and imposes an ‘unauthorized’ sentence when it erroneously stays or fails to stay execution of a sentence under section 654. [Citations.]” (*People v. Scott* (1994) 9 Cal.4th 331, 354, fn. 17.) An “unauthorized sentence” can be corrected whenever it is brought to the reviewing court’s attention, even if no objection was made below and the People raise the issue in connection with a defendant’s appeal. (*Ibid*; *People v. Crooks* (1997) 55 Cal.App.4th 797, 811.)

The People argue that McDonald was not the only victim in this case, pointing to the fact that a bullet was found in a nearby house. But, there was no evidence that anyone was present inside the house at the time of the shooting. Furthermore, the amended information in this case, made clear that the People relied on the same acts, and the same victim, for count one and count three. With respect to count three, the People alleged that Mendez “personally inflicted great bodily injury upon Officer Kevin P. McDonald . . .” Because of the way count three was charged and the evidence

presented at trial, we fail to see how the trial court reasonably could have found counts one and three involved different victims. The court properly stayed punishment on count three.

III. DISPOSITION

The judgment is affirmed.

Bruiniers, J.

We concur:

Jones, P. J.

Simons, J.

A128082

2012

Filed 1/18/12

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED IN OFFICIAL REPORTS

California Rules of Court, rule 8.1115(a), prohibits courts and parties from citing or relying on opinions not certified for publication or ordered published, except as specified by rule 8.1115(b). This opinion has not been certified for publication or ordered published for purposes of rule 8.1115.

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FIRST APPELLATE DISTRICT

DIVISION FIVE

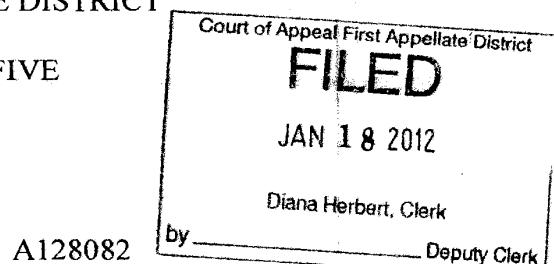
THE PEOPLE,

Plaintiff and Respondent,

v.

JESSE WILLIAM MENDEZ,

Defendant and Appellant.



(Alameda County
Super. Ct. No. C158737)

BY THE COURT*:

IT IS ORDERED that the opinion filed on December 21, 2011, is modified as follows and the petition for rehearing is DENIED¹:

1. On page 3, in part I, the first sentence of the first full paragraph is amended to read: "The Camaro eventually stopped, after making a right turn onto Parker Avenue from east-bound MacArthur."

2. On page 4, in part I, the second sentence of the last paragraph is amended to read: "One bullet slug was located on the sidewalk on the east side of Parker, next to the house at 7851 MacArthur Boulevard."

3. On page 4, in part I, the third sentence of the last paragraph is amended to read: "A fragment of a bullet was found on the north side of MacArthur, to the east of Parker, in a gutter."

¹ In connection with the petition for rehearing, appellant submitted a motion to augment on January 6, 2012, and an amended motion to augment on January 9, 2012. Denial of the petition for rehearing renders these motions moot.

4. On pages 4 and 5, in part I, the sentence that bridges the two pages is amended to read: "A bullet hole was located in an exterior panel of a house at 7850 MacArthur, on the north side of MacArthur."

5. On page 5, in part I, a new footnote is inserted after the second full sentence on the page, after the word "vest," to read: "Another officer, who had previously spoken with McDonald, told the technician that 'when [McDonald] approached the vehicle the driver of the vehicle reached over his shoulder and shot four times.' " Subsequent footnotes are renumbered accordingly.

6. On page 5, in part I, a new sentence is added as the final sentence to the fourth full paragraph on the page, to read: "2635 Parker was 1,237 feet from the scene of the shooting and close to the Garfield intersection."

7. On page 6, in part I, the third sentence of the first paragraph is amended to read: "Dye had long hair that was slicked back on the sides and pulled back in a ponytail."

8. On page 6, in part I, the sixth sentence of the last paragraph is amended to read: "Harper said the driver was not wearing his hair in dreadlocks or corn rows but, rather, had it 'slicked back' on the side of his head."

9. On page 9, in part I, a new sentence is added as the final sentence in the third full paragraph to read: "Rullamas thought Dye's appearance was similar to the appearance of Mendez in a photograph."

10. On pages 15 and 16, in part II.B.2., the last sentence that bridges the two pages is amended to read: "Second, even assuming that Mendez's trial counsel raised impeachment as a basis for admissibility, he did not make an adequate record that the out-of-court statement would, in fact, have impeachment value."

11. On page 16, in part II.B.2., the second full sentence is amended to read: "The trial record does not tell us whether these conditions are satisfied."

12. On page 16, in part II.B.2., beginning with the third full sentence, the remainder of the paragraph is amended to read: "Jones did testify, at the preliminary hearing, that he was told that the informant told Wingate he had actually seen the shooting and seen the person who had done the shooting go into the yard of 2635 Parker. But, Mendez's trial counsel did not alert the trial judge, who did not preside over the preliminary hearing, to Jones's prior testimony."

13. On page 17, in part II.B.2., the second sentence of the second full paragraph is amended to read: "Instead, he asked the jury to speculate, from the lighting conditions, McDonald's preoccupation with his flashlight, the fact that the passenger was, at times, out of McDonald's view, the missing photograph, the location of the bullets and casings, and the unanalyzed gunshot residue kit that such was the case."

14. On page 25, in part II.D., the third full sentence on the page, beginning "as we have observed . . ." is deleted.

15. On page 26, in part II.E., the second sentence is amended to read: "We have largely rejected Mendez's arguments on the merits."

This modification effects no change in the judgment.

Dated JAN 18 2012

Jones, P.J.

P.J.

* Before Jones, P.J., Simons, J., and Bruiniers, J.

PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I, Dale Dombkowski, declare that I am a citizen of the United States and my business address is 3145 Geary Blvd., No. 604, San Francisco, CA 94118. I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to the above action.

On January 30, 2012, I served the above document on the parties listed below, in a sealed envelope, postage prepaid, in the United States mail at San Francisco, CA.

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Court of Appeal
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I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true.

Dated: January 30, 2012

Dale Dombkowski

APPENDIX F



People v. Mendez

Court of Appeal, First District, Division 5, California. | December 21, 2011 | Not Reported in Cal.Rptr.3d | 2011 WL 6396513

Document Details

KeyCite: **KeyCite Red Flag - Severe Negative Treatment**
Unpublished/noncitable, December 21, 2011

Outline

[Attorneys and Law Firms](#)

[Opinion](#)

[All Citations](#)

standard Citation: People v. Mendez, No. A128082, 2011 WL 6396513
(Cal. Ct. App. Dec. 21, 2011)

All Citations: Not Reported in Cal.Rptr.3d, 2011 WL 6396513

Search Details

Jurisdiction: California

Delivery Details

Date: February 14, 2017 at 9:58 AM

Delivered By: Vicki Marolt

Client ID: MENDEZ

Status Icons:

KeyCite Red Flag - Severe Negative Treatment
Unpublished/noncitable December 21, 2011

2011 WL 6396513

Not Officially Published

(Cal. Rules of Court, Rules 8.1105 and
8.1110, 8.1115)

Only the Westlaw citation is currently
available.

California Rules of Court, rule 8.1115,
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opinions in California courts.

Court of Appeal, First District, Division
5, California.

The PEOPLE, Plaintiff and
Respondent,

v.

Jesse William MENDEZ, Defendant
and Appellant.

No. A128082.

|

(Alameda County Super. Ct. No.
C158737).

|

Dec. 21, 2011.

|

As Modified on Denial of Rehearing
Jan. 18, 2012.*

* In connection with the petition for rehearing, appellant submitted a motion to augment on January 6, 2012, and an amended motion to augment on January 9, 2012. Denial of the petition for rehearing renders these motions moot.

Attorneys and Law Firms

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First District Appellate Project, Dale
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Opinion

BRUINIERS, J.

*1 A jury convicted Jesse William Mendez of attempted murder of a peace officer ([Pen.Code, §§ 187, subd. \(a\), 664](#)),¹ illegal possession of a firearm by a felon (§ 12021, subd. (a)(1)), and discharging a gun from a motor vehicle (§ 12034, subd. (d)). Mendez argues: (1) that the trial court erroneously excluded certain out-of-court statements as hearsay, thereby violating his Sixth Amendment confrontation rights; (2) that the trial court abused its discretion when it denied his request for a continuance, thereby violating his rights to due process and compulsory process; (3) that his trial counsel provided ineffective assistance; and (4) that the cumulative impact of the alleged errors requires reversal. Mendez also asks us to independently review the trial court's *in camera* proceedings, conducted pursuant to [Pitchess v. Superior Court](#) (1974) 11 Cal.3d 531, 113 Cal.Rptr. 897, 522 P.2d 305 (*Pitchess*), to determine whether the trial court abused its discretion by withholding discoverable police personnel records. The People contend the trial court erred by staying Mendez's prison term for discharging a gun from a motor vehicle. We affirm.²

¹ Unless otherwise noted, all further statutory references are to the Penal Code.

² Mendez has also filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus and request for judicial notice (No. A133724). By separate order, we grant the request for judicial notice and deny the habeas petition.

Millington.). The motion was apparently denied as to Sergeant T. Jones.³

³ We say apparently because Jones's name is struck through in the court's protective order issued after the hearing. As we discuss *post*, Mendez fails to provide us with the full record of this proceeding.

Prosecution's Evidence

I. FACTUAL AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

Mendez was charged, by information, with attempted murder of a peace officer (§§ 187, subd. (a), 664; count one), possession of a firearm by a felon (§ 12021, subd. (a)(1); count two); and discharging a weapon from a motor vehicle (§ 12034, subd. (d); count three). It was alleged that the attempted murder was willful, deliberate, and premeditated (§ 664, subds.(e), (f)) and that Mendez, in counts one and three, personally used and intentionally discharged a firearm, causing great bodily injury (§§ 12022.5, subd. (a), 12022.7, subd. (a), 12022.53, subds. (b), (d)). Finally, it was alleged that Mendez had suffered a prior conviction for the sale, offer to sell, or transportation of a controlled substance (Health & Saf.Code, § 11352, subd. (a)).

Prior to trial, Mendez made a so-called *Pitchess* motion seeking discovery of potential impeachment information from the personnel records of four investigating officers. Following an in camera hearing, the court granted the motion with respect to three officers (Sergeant D. Longmire, Sergeant R. Wingate and Officer S.

The Shooting

Oakland Police Officer Kevin McDonald testified that, shortly after midnight on May 19, 2007, he was on traffic duty, riding his motorcycle in full uniform, in East Oakland on 77th Avenue near MacArthur Boulevard. McDonald saw an older style, yellow Camaro run a stop sign. He followed the Camaro, going northbound on 77th Avenue and then made a right turn onto MacArthur Boulevard. McDonald observed two people in the front seat of the car. He turned on his red light, his flashing lights, and his siren.

The Camaro eventually stopped, after making a right turn onto Parker Avenue from east-bound MacArthur. McDonald stopped his motorcycle behind the Camaro at the intersection of Parker and MacArthur. There were streetlights illuminating the area, including one directly overhead. McDonald got off his motorcycle and was having difficulty attempting to retrieve his flashlight from his duty belt. McDonald also paused to disconnect the wire running from his helmet to the motorcycle's radio.

*2 When McDonald approached the

Camaro, he saw the driver had turned so that his face was in the open driver's window and he was looking back at McDonald. The street lamp illuminated the driver's face. McDonald could see the silhouette of the passenger, but could not see what the passenger was doing. McDonald continued to watch the driver and fumble for his flashlight as he approached the vehicle. He did not see any movement from the passenger.

When McDonald arrived at the driver's door, and before he was able to ask the driver for his license and registration, McDonald heard two gunshots and saw muzzle flash in the driver's lap area. He did not see a hand or the gun. McDonald felt the first bullet strike him in the center of his chest, where it lodged in his protective vest. The second shot went through his left pinkie finger. The passenger was not in McDonald's view when he was shot. But, McDonald testified that he never saw the passenger lean forward, across the driver's body, or into the driver's seat.

After McDonald was shot, he began to retreat to the back of the vehicle, to put the vehicle between himself and the shooter. The driver was still looking out of the vehicle, but McDonald could not tell what the passenger was doing. McDonald testified: "It looked like the driver was raising his [right] arm up with the gun as I was retreating." McDonald heard two more shots fired and turned to duck. McDonald pulled out his service weapon, but by that time the Camaro was fleeing southbound down Parker. Eventually, McDonald lost sight of the Camaro.

McDonald radioed for help. He said he had been shot by a white male and gave a description of the Camaro and the direction it had headed. After other officers responded to the scene, an ambulance arrived and transported McDonald to the hospital. As a result of the shooting, McDonald suffered internal and external bruising to his chest and nerve damage to his hand. He continues to experience pain and suffers occasional nightmares. He was off work for three months after the shooting.

At trial, McDonald identified Mendez as the driver of the Camaro and the person who shot him. He also indicated that Mendez wore his hair in corn rows at the time of the shooting. He also testified that all of the shots fired came from the driver's side window and that none of the shots fired came from anywhere else in the vehicle. McDonald testified: "The only one that could have had a shot is the driver. If the passenger was leaning forward in order to get that shot, I would have seen that." McDonald was asked: "[A]re you certain that Mr. Mendez is the person who shot you?" He responded: "Yes, I am."

The Police Investigation

Oakland Police Officer Kevin Reynolds was also on traffic duty on May 19, 2007, in the vicinity of 77th Avenue and MacArthur Boulevard. Reynolds did not witness the shooting, but heard a series of two to three gunshots, a pause, and then another two to three gunshots coming from the area where he had seen McDonald make a traffic stop.

Reynolds responded to the scene and found McDonald on the ground, just north of his motorcycle. McDonald told Reynolds that the shooter was “a male white driving a ‘70’s Chevy Camaro that was yellow [and] in poor condition....” McDonald advised Reynolds that the Camaro went south on Parker. Reynolds passed this information along to other officers in the area. Officers canvassed witnesses and set up a perimeter to contain the scene and the suspect.

***3** An evidence technician also responded to the scene of the shooting, but recovered no bullet casings. One bullet slug was located on the sidewalk on the east side of Parker, next to the house at 7851 MacArthur Boulevard. A fragment of a bullet was found on the north side of MacArthur, to the east of Parker, in a gutter. A bullet hole was located in an exterior panel of a house at 7850 MacArthur, on the north side of MacArthur. A bullet was found inside the house. Another bullet slug was located inside the trauma plate of McDonald’s protective vest.⁴

⁴ Another officer, who had previously spoken with McDonald, told the technician that “when [McDonald] approached the vehicle the driver of the vehicle reached over his shoulder and shot four times.”

An unoccupied vehicle matching McDonald’s description was found two blocks south of the shooting scene, at Garfield and Parker. Mendez’s identification card was found inside the glove compartment and turned over to Officer Pope. Four bullet casings were found on the driver’s side of the car—three were found on the driver’s side floorboard and another was found in the left-front door well.

A firearms expert examined the bullet fragments found at the scene and determined that they were all fired from the same gun. He also examined the casings and determined that they were all fired from the same gun. All of the bullets and casings were nine-millimeter and could not have been fired from a .22-caliber revolver. He determined that a Lorcin semi-automatic pistol was likely the firearm used. Casings are ejected from the right on such a gun. How the gun is held will, of course, impact where the casings end up. 2635 Parker was 1,237 feet from the scene of the shooting and close to the Garfield intersection.

Sergeant Barry Hofmann showed Mendez’s identification card to McDonald at the hospital. Hofmann testified that McDonald looked at the card and said “‘Yeah, that’s the guy.’” Hofmann then broadcast Mendez’s name over the radio and gave a physical description, including the fact that he had long brown hair. McDonald did not recall being shown any other photographs of Mendez while he was at the hospital.

Oakland Police Sergeant Tony Jones testified that he was the primary investigator on the case. On May 19, 2007, between 4 and 5 a.m., Jones received information “that the officers had an informant, a citizen informant, which essentially is a citizen who wants to remain anonymous but they want to give information, that saw the suspect hide underneath 2635 [Parker] after the shooting.”⁵

⁵ Jones did not have a name for the informant, but did receive a .22 caliber revolver from him. Jones testified: “He was given my number by Sergeant Wingate and he

called me.... I figured if we ever needed him, Wingate could just call him. But the person didn't want to get involved. There isn't much I could do if a person doesn't want to get involved like that."

Police located Jeremiah Dye under the house. Dye was ultimately shot and killed by an Oakland police officer.⁶ Dye had long hair that was slicked back on the sides and pulled back in a ponytail. Jones could not remember whether a gunshot residue test taken from Dye had been analyzed.

⁶ Sergeant Richard Andreotti testified that he attended the Dye autopsy. He observed a gunshot wound to Dye's left ear hole. He also observed scrapes, handcuff marks on Dye's wrists, and a dog bite.

Jones testified that, at the time the informant's report was received, he already had Mendez's name from the identification found in the car. Although Mendez was identified as the suspect on May 19, he was not arrested until approximately two weeks later, in Sacramento. Mendez's head had been shaved.

On direct examination by the prosecutor, Jones was asked: "[I]n this particular case did you receive any information or leads that pointed to anyone else as the suspect in this case other than Mr. Mendez?" He was also asked "And are you aware of any physical evidence that points in any direction other than to Mr. Mendez as a suspect in this case?" Jones responded "No" to both questions.

*⁴ Tomeka Harper testified that, on May 19, 2007, a little after midnight, she was driving on Parker towards MacArthur. When she stopped at the intersection she saw a police officer on a motorcycle pulling over a yellow Camaro. She saw two people in the front seat of the car. She described the driver as follows: "He lookeded [sic] like he was mixed. It looked like he had long hair. It was pulled back in a ponytail, and he had on like a ... gray, black and white like camouflage jacket."⁷ Harper said the driver was not wearing his hair in dreadlocks or corn rows but rather, had it "slicked back" pm the side of his head. At trial, Harper identified Mendez as the driver of the Camaro. She remembered the intersection being well-lit. She had not been drinking that night and was paying close attention because she "was being nosy."

⁷ A black, white, and gray sweatshirt was found in the Camaro.

After Harper turned right onto MacArthur, she lost sight of the Camaro and the officer. She stopped at a liquor store about a block away and then heard gunshots. She drove her car back to Parker and MacArthur, parked her car, and gave a statement to police. Later, Harper was driven by police to the Camaro parked on Garfield. She identified it as the same car she saw the officer stop. She also identified Mendez, as the driver of the Camaro, from a photographic lineup. She did not see the passenger as well, but testified that he may have been wearing a white t-shirt and "could have been mixed race or white."

Independent Identification

Testimony of Andre Stovall

Andre Stovall testified that he has known Mendez for “some years .” He said that during the late evening of May 18, 2007, and early morning of May 19, 2007, Stovall was drinking with friends around 72nd Avenue. Mendez arrived, in “an older model car ... [¶] ... [¶][w]ith some Mexican dude” who may have been Mendez’s cousin. Both Mendez and his cousin wore their hair slicked back and in ponytails. They all were “hanging out” and drinking “most likely tequila.”

Stovall testified: “I had a gun and I showed it to [Mendez], you feel me? And his cousin, or whoever he was, had one and he showed it to me.... I looked at it and gave it back to him and he gave it back to his cousin.” Stovall saw Mendez the next day. Mendez looked like he had his hair cut since Stovall saw him the night before. Mendez asked to use Stovall’s phone and Stovall let him.

Stovall did not remember Mendez saying anything about shooting at police. Stovall conceded, however, that he had previously given a taped statement to police, on May 30, 2007. He testified, however, that he did not remember what he had told police. Stovall’s taped police statement was played for the jury. On that taped statement, Stovall said Mendez was with the group on 72nd Avenue the evening before the shooting. Stovall saw someone hand a gun back to Mendez. Stovall said: “We was talkin’ ‘bout was [Mendez] really Caucasian. He a light Mexican.” They said “that [Mendez] was a white boy. And he don’t ever get pullt [sic] over by the police cuz he a white boy.” In response, Mendez said: “he’ud [sic] get

down—he said ... he’ud [sic] shoot if the police pullt [sic] him over.” Stovall also told police that when he saw Mendez the following day, Mendez’s hair was cut and Mendez said “he got pullt [sic] over and he shot at the police.”

*5 On cross-examination, Stovall testified that he only made the above statement to police after they threatened to make a negative report to his parole officer. Stovall said: “I told [the police] some stuff they wanted to hear because I wanted to go home.” Stovall testified that Mendez never said he had shot a police officer. However, he did not lie about Mendez getting a haircut.

Stovall conceded that it was not good to be known as a snitch in his neighborhood.

Defense Evidence

Joel Gay testified that he grew up in the same neighborhood as Mendez. On May 18, 2007, Gay had been on 72nd Avenue drinking and smoking marijuana with others. At one point, Mendez arrived and drank with the group. Gay testified that, after the shooting, about 20 Oakland police officers came to his house, handcuffed him, and took him in for questioning. Gay testified that he was threatened and coerced by police to make incriminating statements about Mendez. He said that the officers took three different statements from him, but only recorded the last one. Gay said that he first told officers that he had never seen Mendez with a gun because that was the truth. But, Gay said: “I was directly told to say that I saw Jesse with a gun.” At trial, Gay said that

Mendez never told him that he had shot an officer. Gay filed an internal affairs complaint regarding Sergeant Longmire.

On cross-examination, Gay testified that Mendez came by his house the day after the shooting. Mendez told Gay: “ ‘Man, I’m kind of hot, man. I need you to do something for me. [¶] ... [¶] Let me get some money.’ ” Gay did not ask Mendez what he meant. But, he did give him “enough [money] to get a room.” The prosecutor also played Gay’s taped police statement for the jury. During the taped statement, Gay told officers that he had seen Mendez the night of the shooting, that Mendez had a gun, and that Mendez said he was going to shoot if he was pulled over by police. Gay also told police that Mendez came to his house the next day and said: “ ‘Soon as I got to 77th and Mac, a motorcycle come, whoooop! I pulled over—license and reg—PAH PAH PAH PAH POP.’ ”

Oakland Police Officer Lesa Leonis testified that she was on patrol, on May 19, 2007, and responded to Garfield and Parker. She testified that Officer Pope gave her a wallet-sized photograph of a male adult and a child. She and Officer Jiminez took the photo to the hospital and showed it to McDonald. McDonald was “unsure” whether the photograph showed the shooter. Leonis testified that she did not recognize anyone in court that was in the photograph. She remembered only that it showed a “light complected” male. She was not sure what happened to the photograph.⁸

⁸ Jones did not recall ever seeing a photo of Mendez with a small child.

Officer John Fukuda and Officer Jamin Creed both testified that they responded to 2635 Parker, on May 19, 2007. While he was at 2635 Parker, Fukuda heard someone yell “ ‘Oakland police, show me your hands,’ ” and then, within a matter of seconds, Fukuda heard a gunshot. Creed took a gunshot residue test sample from the body of Jeremiah Dye.

*6 Sergeant James Rullamas was Jones’s partner in the investigation of the shooting of McDonald. At approximately 5:00 a.m. on May 19, 2007, he responded to the 2600 block of Parker because of a report that “the suspect was in custody.” When he arrived “the suspect [was] still on the ground” but was deceased. Jones was also present. Rullamas thought Dye’s appearance was similar to the appearance of Mendez in a photograph.

The parties stipulated that Mendez had suffered a felony conviction in 1999.

Closing Arguments

In his closing argument, Mendez’s trial counsel conceded that Mendez was driving the Camaro, but argued that the People had not proved, beyond a reasonable doubt, that he was the shooter. In support, Mendez’s trial counsel pointed to the missing photograph of a man with a small child, the lighting conditions at the scene of the shooting, McDonald’s preoccupation with his flashlight, and the physical location of the bullets and casings—in the hopes of discrediting McDonald’s testimony and pointing the finger at the passenger.

Mendez's trial counsel also argued, without objection: "[S]omeone said that they had seen the shooter exit the vehicle down on Parker. This is an anonymous informant.... [H]e also observed that person go underneath a house at 2635 Parker Avenue. And of course this raises the next major question in this case, and that is the obvious question, is the shooter under that house? Yes, he was. That was Jeremiah Dye." In rebuttal, the prosecutor responded: "Who came in here and said the dead guy under the house was even in the car? Not one person."

Verdict and Sentence

The jury convicted Mendez of all three counts. The jury found the allegations of personal and intentional discharge of a firearm true, but found the great bodily injury and premeditation allegations "not true."⁹ Mendez was sentenced to a term of life with the possibility of parole, plus 23 years. The court imposed and stayed a term on count three, pursuant to section 654. Mendez filed a timely notice of appeal.

⁹ Given the finding on premeditation, the jury apparently did not credit either Stovall's or Gay's taped police statements. Accordingly, we do not consider any evidence from those statements in weighing the prejudicial effect of any error on appeal. We also do not describe their allegations of threatening and coercive police conduct in any detail.

II. DISCUSSION

Mendez asks us to conduct an independent

review of the trial court's in camera proceedings, conducted pursuant to *Pitchess, supra*, 11 Cal.3d 531, 113 Cal.Rptr. 897, 522 P.2d 305, to determine whether the trial court abused its discretion by withholding discoverable personnel records. Mendez also argues: (1) that the trial court erroneously excluded certain out-of-court statements as hearsay, thereby violating his Sixth Amendment confrontation rights; (2) that the trial court abused its discretion when it denied his request for a continuance, thereby violating his rights to due process and compulsory process; (3) that his trial counsel provided ineffective assistance; and (4) that the cumulative impact of the alleged errors requires reversal. The People contend the trial court erred by staying Mendez's prison term for discharging a gun from a motor vehicle. We address each argument in turn.

A. Pitchess Discovery

Mendez asks us to independently review the trial court's in camera *Pitchess* proceedings to determine whether the trial court abused its discretion by withholding discoverable personnel records. Ordinarily, a trial court's decision on the discoverability of material in police personnel files is reviewed for abuse of discretion. (*People v. Mooc* (2001) 26 Cal.4th 1216, 1228, 114 Cal.Rptr.2d 482, 36 P.3d 21.) We are unable to conduct such a review in this case, however, because Mendez has not provided us with the reporter's transcript from the *Pitchess* hearing, the sealed reporter's transcript from the in camera review, or the sealed personnel records submitted for in camera review. The record before us contains only the moving and opposition papers, the

clerk's docket and minutes from the *Pitchess* hearing, and a copy of a "protective order for records ordered disclosed pursuant to *Pitchess* motion."¹⁰ Mendez has not sought to augment or correct the record on appeal. Because Mendez has provided an inadequate record, we deem his *Pitchess* argument forfeited and do not address it further. (See *People v. Barton* (1978) 21 Cal.3d 513, 519–520, 146 Cal.Rptr. 727, 579 P.2d 1043 [appellant's duty to provide record adequate for review]; *Wagner v. Wagner* (2008) 162 Cal.App.4th 249, 259, 75 Cal.Rptr.3d 511 ["absence of a record concerning what actually occurred at the hearing precludes a determination that the court abused its discretion"].)

¹⁰ The clerk's docket and minutes from the date of the hearing state that a *Pitchess* motion was "granted" and indicate that a reporter was present. The docket and minutes also provide: "Order signed by Court. Court conducts in-camera hearing. Court orders declaration sealed. Compliance Date: 1/30/09."

B. Exclusion of Evidence

*7 We next address Mendez's contention that the trial court erred by excluding, on hearsay grounds, evidence concerning the out-of-court statements of the unidentified informant relating to the presence of "the suspect" under the house at 2635 Parker. Mendez also argues here that the trial court's exclusion of the out-of-court statements, violated his right to confront the witnesses against him, under the Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

" 'Hearsay evidence' is evidence of a statement that was made other than by a

witness while testifying at the hearing and that is offered to prove the truth of the matter stated. [¶] ... Except as provided by law, hearsay evidence is inadmissible." (Evid.Code, § 1200, subds.(a), (b).) We review a trial court's ruling on the admissibility of evidence for abuse of discretion. (*People v. Pirwani* (2004) 119 Cal.App.4th 770, 787, 14 Cal.Rptr.3d 673; *People v. Ortiz* (1995) 38 Cal.App.4th 377, 386, 44 Cal.Rptr.2d 914.) "No judgment shall be set aside ... on the ground of ... the improper admission or rejection of evidence, ... unless, after an examination of the entire cause, including the evidence, the court shall be of the opinion that the error complained of has resulted in a miscarriage of justice." (Cal. Const., Art. VI, § 13.)

"[A] criminal defendant states a violation of the Confrontation Clause by showing that he was prohibited from engaging in otherwise appropriate cross-examination designed to show a prototypical form of bias on the part of the witness, and thereby 'to expose to the jury the facts from which jurors ... could appropriately draw inferences relating to the reliability of the witness.' [Citation.]" (*Delaware v. Van Arsdall* (1986) 475 U.S. 673, 680, 106 S.Ct. 1431, 89 L.Ed.2d 674.) "[T]he constitutionally improper denial of a defendant's opportunity to impeach a witness for bias, like other Confrontation Clause errors, is subject to *Chapman* harmless-error analysis. The correct inquiry is whether, assuming that the damaging potential of the cross-examination were fully realized, a reviewing court might nonetheless say that the error was harmless beyond a reasonable doubt. Whether such an error is harmless in a particular case depends upon a host of factors, all readily accessible

to reviewing courts. These factors include the importance of the witness' testimony in the prosecution's case, whether the testimony was cumulative, the presence or absence of evidence corroborating or contradicting the testimony of the witness on material points, the extent of cross-examination otherwise permitted, and, of course, the overall strength of the prosecution's case. [Citations.]” (*Id.* at p. 684.)

1. Background

Mendez complains on appeal of two instances in which his trial counsel unsuccessfully attempted to elicit an informant's out-of-court statements to police regarding observations of “the suspect” under the house at 2635 Parker Avenue.

In the first instance complained of, Jones testified, on cross-examination, that officers went to 2635 Parker Avenue after receiving a tip from an anonymous informant. Jones was then asked: “And that person had advised the investigating officers that he had actually seen the person who had done the shooting go underneath that house?” The People objected, on hearsay grounds. Mendez's trial counsel attempted to justify admission of the evidence as nonhearsay. Specifically, he argued: “Your Honor, it shows that the police acted upon it as a result of that information. It shows why they did what they did.” The trial court sustained the prosecutor's objection.

*8 In the second part of Mendez's argument, he complains that the court improperly redacted a DVD created as part of the

investigation into Dye's shooting. The court noted that it was particularly concerned with the following statement, by Jones, on the DVD: “I'm told we were—the officers were led to this location by a witness that seen the entire incident and saw the suspect hide underneath this house here.” “Regarding the court's hearsay concerns, the following discussion occurred on the record:

“[DEFENSE COUNSEL]: Actually, this is just a statement of what had been given to Jones by others there, and it goes to his, meaning Sergeant Jones's, state of mind in the course of this investigation as to the facts and circumstances of what was going on. And even if it is hearsay, [the] state of mind exception should resolve that. And also the fact that it's part of his investigation process as well as ... if this is hearsay, all of this has actually been testified to by some witnesses in this case.

“THE COURT: Well, I understand that witnesses may have testified to a lot of this stuff, but it's still hearsay. Why is his state of mind relevant?

“[DEFENSE COUNSEL]: It's relevant as far as what he was doing by way of his investigation of the case.”

The court ordered Jones's statement redacted before the DVD was played for the jury.

2. Analysis

On appeal, Mendez concedes that the out-of-court statements were not admissible for their implied truth, i.e., that the person found

under the house on Parker Avenue (Dye) was the person who shot McDonald. But he asserts that the out-of-court statements should nevertheless have been admitted to impeach Jones's testimony that he had not received "any information or leads that pointed to anyone else as the suspect in this case other than Mr. Mendez." Specifically, Mendez contends: "[T]he evidence that the citizen told police he had seen the shooting and had seen the shooter hide under the house directly contradicted Sergeant Jones's direct examination testimony.... Since this was not an offer to prove the truth of the matter asserted, but to prove knowledge, the evidence was not hearsay and the court erred in sustaining the prosecutor's hearsay objection."

First, we note that, in both instances, Mendez sought to admit double or even triple hearsay. Ultimately, in both instances, Mendez sought to admit a statement made by the informant to unnamed police officers, who then relayed the statements to Jones. For simplicity's sake, we focus on the first level of hearsay—what the informant purportedly said—and treat the statement as if the informant spoke directly to Jones.

Evidence of a declarant's statement is not hearsay if it "is offered to prove that the statement imparted certain information to the hearer and that the hearer, believing such information to be true, acted in conformity with that belief. The statement is not hearsay, since it is the hearer's reaction to the statement that is the relevant fact sought to be proved, not the truth of the matter asserted in the statement." [Citation.]" (People v. Scalzi (1981) 126 Cal.App.3d 901, 907, 179 Cal.Rptr. 61.) But, "[a]

hearsay objection to an out-of-court statement may not be overruled simply by identifying a nonhearsay purpose for admitting the statement. The trial court must also find that the nonhearsay purpose is relevant to an issue in dispute." (People v. Armendariz (1984) 37 Cal.3d 573, 585, 209 Cal.Rptr. 664, 693 P.2d 243, superseded by statute on other grounds as stated in People v. Cottle (2006) 39 Cal.4th 246, 255, 46 Cal.Rptr.3d 86, 138 P.3d 230.) "Relevant evidence" means evidence, *including evidence relevant to the credibility of a witness* or hearsay declarant, having any tendency in reason to prove or disprove any disputed fact that is of consequence to the determination of the action." (Evid. Code, § 210, italics added.) Mendez's trial counsel only argued that the informant's statement showed why "[the police] did what they did." The nonhearsay purpose identified by Mendez at trial was irrelevant. There were no disputed issues with respect to why police responded to 2635 Parker.

*9 Mendez' theory on appeal is different, and he now argues that the evidence was admissible for the nonhearsay purpose of impeaching Jones's testimony that there was no evidence or leads pointing to a "suspect" other than Mendez.¹¹ (See People v. Archer (2000) 82 Cal.App.4th 1380, 1391–1392, 99 Cal.Rptr.2d 230 [error to exclude an out-of-court statement offered for limited purpose of impeachment].) Evidence Code section 780 provides, in relevant part: "Except as otherwise provided by statute, the court or jury may consider in determining the credibility of a witness any matter that has any tendency in reason to prove or disprove the truthfulness of his testimony at the hearing...."

11 Mendez also asserts that the evidence also impeached Jones's positive response to the following question: "Since you were the primary investigator and looked at all of the evidence and statements, et cetera, did you rule out the passenger of the yellow Camaro at the incident location as a possible shooter of Officer McDonald?" We fail to see how the excluded evidence tends to suggest Jones's response was untrue.

"Cross-examination to test the credibility of a prosecuting witness in a criminal case should be given wide latitude. [Citations.]" (*Curry v. Superior Court* (1970) 2 Cal.3d 707, 715, 87 Cal.Rptr. 361, 470 P.2d 345.) But, nonetheless, there are several problems with Mendez's theory of admissibility. First, Mendez's trial counsel never argued that the out-of-court statements were admissible for impeachment purposes or that exclusion of such evidence would violate his right to confrontation.¹² Second, even assuming that Mendez's trial counsel raised impeachment as a basis for admissibility, he did not make an adequate record that the out-of-court statement would, in fact, have impeachment value. The informant's out-of-court statement would only tend to impeach Jones if: (1) the informant said that he saw the shooting, and (2) the informant said that he saw the person who shot McDonald hide under the house at 2635 Parker. The trial record does not tell us whether these conditions are satisfied. Jones did testify, at the preliminary hearing, that he was told that the informant told Wingate he had actually seen the shooting and seen the person who had done the shooting go into the yard of 2635 Parker. But, Mendez's trial counsel did not alert the trial judge, who did not preside over the preliminary hearing, to Jones's prior testimony.

12 Jones was asked: "And the information ... that the officers acted upon when they went to 2635 Parker Avenue was that of the observations of the person who indicated he had seen the shooting; is that correct?" He responded: "Yes."

***10** In any event, even if we assume that the informant's out-of-court statement was as favorable as Mendez suggests and that exclusion was error, there is no possibility that the trial court's evidentiary ruling prejudiced Mendez, regardless of whether error is judged under the state standard for erroneous evidentiary rulings (*People v. Cunningham* (2001) 25 Cal.4th 926, 998–999, 108 Cal.Rptr.2d 291, 25 P.3d 519; *People v. Watson* (1956) 46 Cal.2d 818, 836, 299 P.2d 243), or, as Mendez argues, under the standard required in assessing federal constitutional error. (*Chapman v. California* (1967) 386 U.S. 18, 24, 87 S.Ct. 824, 17 L.Ed.2d 705; *Delaware v. Van Arsdall*, *supra*, 475 U.S. at p. 684.)

Reversal might be required if Mendez could establish some basis for admitting the informant's statement for the truth of the matter asserted. But, it is undisputed that the informant's out-of-court statement could not have been admitted for its truth. Thus, there is no way that any error in excluding the evidence for a limited purpose forestalled Mendez from presenting a defense. Jones did not witness the shooting. Jones's role, as the primary homicide investigator, was merely to summarize the evidence collected in the case. In addition to Jones's testimony that he was not aware of any evidence or leads pointing to a suspect other than Mendez, the jury also was presented with strong direct and circumstantial evidence that Mendez was the shooter.

Mendez did not testify or present other direct evidence that Dye was the shooter. Instead, he asked the jury to speculate, from the lighting conditions, McDonald's preoccupation with his flashlight, the fact that the passenger was, at times, out of McDonald's view, the missing photograph, the location of the bullets and casings, and the unanalyzed gunshot residue kit that such was the case. Moreover, Jones's partner in the investigation, Rullamas, was called as a witness by the defense and testified, without objection, that Dye was a "suspect" in the shooting of McDonald, and defense counsel was allowed to argue, without objection, that the anonymous informant actually saw the shooting, and saw the alleged shooter (inferentially Dye) go under the house on Parker Avenue. Even assuming that Dye was the passenger in the Camaro, we do not view this as a close case. McDonald himself testified that he was certain that Mendez was the shooter. McDonald said that he saw the driver raise the gun as he retreated and never saw the passenger lean into the driver's seat. Another witness independently identified Mendez as the driver of the Camaro. Mendez's identification card was found inside the Camaro, where all of the casings were found on the driver's side. The firearms expert testified that none of the recovered bullets and casings could have been fired from the .22-caliber revolver obtained from the anonymous informant. Finally, it was undisputed that Mendez left the area and cut his hair after the shooting. There is no reasonable likelihood that the jury would have rejected all of this evidence if the out-of-court statements had been admitted for the limited purpose of impeaching Jones.

C. Continuance

*11 Mendez also argues that the trial court abused its discretion in denying his request for a mid-trial continuance. He claims that the trial court's ruling violated his right to due process and to compulsory process under the Sixth Amendment.¹³

¹³ Mendez did not raise his constitutional arguments at trial and, accordingly, we could deem them forfeited. (See *People v. Rodrigues* (1994) 8 Cal.4th 1060, 1126, fn. 30, 36 Cal.Rptr.2d 235, 885 P.2d 1; *People v. Daniels* (2009) 176 Cal.App.4th 304, 320, fn. 10, 97 Cal.Rptr.3d 659.) However, assuming he has not forfeited them because they merely restate, under alternative but similar legal principles and facts, claims "otherwise identical" to those that were properly preserved (see *People v. Partida* (2005) 37 Cal.4th 428, 436, 35 Cal.Rptr.3d 644, 122 P.3d 765), and to forestall Mendez's ineffective assistance of counsel claim, we will address his claim on the merits.

1. Background

After the defense had called eight witnesses, Mendez's trial counsel notified the court that he had no more available witnesses. The following exchange occurred on the record: "[DEFENSE COUNSEL]: There's several other officers we have subpoenaed and have been trying to get in here, your Honor. Officer Roche was subpoenaed long ago. He never appeared and he's one of the ones that we first gave you the information on the he had been served and he has never appeared or contacted us, so we need to have him in here.... [¶] ... [¶] The others though are more problematic to the extent there's Hector Jiminez, who is often mentioned here, but he is really significant as far as his statement in his report, and we have had no way of

getting in touch with him. Apparently he has left the department. So [the prosecutor] advised me there's nothing he could do to get in touch with him. He has no way of getting in touch with him.... They sent back a statement once efforts were made to subpoena him indicating that he was no longer with the department, no longer with OPD, unable to serve. [¶] It would seem to me there ought to be some records of this person there at OPD and some means that they could get in touch with him ... because he's really a crucial witness to the extent that he was the officer that went over to the hospital with this now lost photograph of the person with the child and ... other evidence suggests that was Mr. Mendez with his child because it was taken from that vehicle as possible identifying information. [¶] And the final one is Officer Randy Pope. He did not appear either after being subpoenaed....”

The court ordered the prosecutor to make all reasonable efforts to bring Pope and Roche before the court. Defense counsel asked: “Could we get some kind of order to at least get [Jiminez's] address ... so we can try to serve him?” The court responded: “If you want some kind of Court order, get me a Court order. [¶] ... [¶] I don't know [that] even a Court order is going to do that either. OPD, they're going to go to their city attorney. The city attorney is going to object to it and then it will be another two weeks before we find out.”

On the following Monday, defense counsel explained: “I have no witnesses at this time.... [W]e had previously subpoenaed Officer Roche and he has never responded to our subpoena, and that was very early on in the case. [¶] In addition to that, we

resubpoenaed him, but I understand that he may not be around for a while.... And we also attempted to subpoena for today Officer Randy Pope. He was due in last Thursday. He has not responded to the subpoena.... [¶] But that's the situation as it exists now. Those are the last ... witnesses we would hope to call, even though we had tried to subpoena ... Sergeant Wingate, but we can do without him.¹⁴ We actually sent a subpoena to him. He was never served. [¶] ... [¶] Hector Jiminez. I forgot about him. But he's another officer, quote, who's no longer with the department, end quote, and we've been trying to locate him through Mr. Rosenblum and through the City Attorney's Office....

¹⁴ Wingate was present at 2635 Parker. Wingate is no longer with the Oakland Police Department.

*12 “THE COURT: But in any case, he's not here. So are you going to rest then?

“[DEFENSE COUNSEL]: I was going to ask that this matter be continued until we can get these witnesses here. I understand that Officer Roche could be back at the earliest Thursday.

“THE COURT: No, I won't continue it to Thursday.

“[DEFENSE COUNSEL]: I would then be asking that a warrant be issued for Officer Roche. He's been previously subpoenaed and he's not appeared in response to that subpoena. [¶] ... [¶] So has Officer Pope been subpoenaed and has not responded to that subpoena.”

The prosecutor told the court: "... I do understand that a subpoena was issued for Officer Roche to appear in court on the 31st of December, and I am aware that Officer Roche did not appear. However, as I explained to the Court, I believe off the record, is that during that time frame the OPD liaison unit was on furlough. So I'm not sure that Officer Roche ever received a subpoena to come to court. [¶] In addition to that, I am aware that [defense counsel] has made attempts to contact Officer Roche and in fact ... either late Thursday or early Friday resubpoenaed Officer Roche and Officer Pope. [¶] I've talked with Maxine Dong at the OPD court liaison unit. What she explains to me is on Friday she did immediately send subpoenas to Officer Pope at his work location. He's not in the police administration building. She also E-mailed him and immediately got an auto reply he is on vacation. She has no clue as to when Officer Pope is going to be back here in order to address the subpoena. [¶] ... [¶] With regards to Officer Roche, ... she does not expect him until ... Thursday. She's not 100 percent sure on that...."

The court denied the continuance, stating: "All right. So basically because you don't have any witnesses you're going to have to rest. You've asked for a continuance. I've denied that. We're not waiting until Thursday." However, the court did issue warrants for the arrest of Pope and Roche. The next day, the prosecutor told the court that he had been informed that Pope had been on death leave all of the previous week and was expected to be so for the remainder of the week. Mendez's trial counsel asked that the warrant request be withdrawn with respect to Pope.

2. Analysis

"Continuances shall be granted only upon a showing of good cause" (§ 1050, subd. (e).) "When a continuance is sought to secure the attendance of a witness, the defendant must establish 'he had exercised due diligence to secure the witness's attendance, that the witness's expected testimony was material and not cumulative, that the testimony could be obtained within a reasonable time, and that the facts to which the witness would testify could not otherwise be proven.' [Citation.]" (*People v. Jenkins* (2000) 22 Cal.4th 900, 1037, 95 Cal.Rptr.2d 377, 997 P.2d 1044.) "The granting or denial of a motion for continuance in the midst of a trial traditionally rests within the sound discretion of the trial judge who must consider not only the benefit which the moving party anticipates but also the likelihood that such benefit will result, the burden on other witnesses, jurors and the court and, above all, whether substantial justice will be accomplished or defeated by a granting of the motion." (*People v. Fudge* (1994) 7 Cal.4th 1075, 1105, 31 Cal.Rptr.2d 321, 875 P.2d 36.) "In the lack of a showing of an abuse of discretion or of prejudice to the defendant, a denial of his motion for a continuance cannot result in a reversal of a judgment of conviction. [Citations.]" (*People v. Laursen* (1972) 8 Cal.3d 192, 204, 104 Cal.Rptr. 425, 501 P.2d 1145.)

*13 "[T]he denial of a continuance may be so arbitrary as to deny due process. [Citation.] However, not every denial of a

request for more time can be said to violate due process, even if the party seeking the continuance thereby fails to offer evidence. [Citation.] Although ‘a myopic insistence upon expeditiousness in the face of a justifiable request for delay can render the right to defend with counsel an empty formality[,] ... [t]here are no mechanical tests for deciding when a denial of a continuance is so arbitrary as to violate due process.’ [Citation.] Instead, ‘[t]he answer must be found in the circumstances present in every case, particularly in the reasons presented to the trial judge at the time the request is denied.’ [Citations.]’ (*People v. Beames* (2007) 40 Cal.4th 907, 920–921, 55 Cal.Rptr.3d 865, 153 P.3d 955; accord, *Ungar v. Sarafite* (1964) 376 U.S. 575, 589, 84 S.Ct. 841, 11 L.Ed.2d 921.)

A defendant’s Sixth Amendment rights include “the right ‘to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor.’”

... [¶] ... [¶] A defendant’s constitutional right to compulsory process is violated when the government interferes with the exercise of his right to present witnesses on his own behalf. [Citations.]’ (*In re Martin* (1987) 44 Cal.3d 1, 29, 30, 241 Cal.Rptr. 263, 744 P.2d 374.) It must also be shown that there is “a causal link between the misconduct and [the defendant’s] inability to present witnesses on his own behalf.” (*Id.* at p. 31, 241 Cal.Rptr. 263, 744 P.2d 374) In addition, the defendant “‘must at least make some plausible showing of how [the] testimony [of the witness] would have been both material and favorable to his defense.’ [Citation.]’ (*Id.* at p. 32, 241 Cal.Rptr. 263, 744 P.2d 374.)

The trial court did not abuse its discretion in

denying the continuance. With respect to former officers Jiminez and Wingate, Mendez did not show that either witness’s testimony could have been obtained within a reasonable time. Mendez also failed to show that Jiminez’s or Wingate’s testimony would be material, noncumulative, and could not otherwise be proven. In fact, Mendez’s argument with respect to materiality is almost entirely devoid of citation to the record. Mendez’s trial counsel even conceded, at the time he moved for a continuance, that “we can do without [Wingate.]” On appeal, Mendez offers nothing but speculation when he argues that Wingate could have established that the informant’s out-of-court statement was a spontaneous statement. With respect to Jiminez, we fail to see how he could have added anything to Leonis’s testimony regarding McDonald’s inability to identify the adult in the missing photograph. And there is no evidence in the record that the photograph in fact showed Mendez. Good cause was not shown for a continuance to obtain either Jiminez’s or Wingate’s testimony.

With respect to Pope and Roche, it is undisputed that Mendez did properly subpoena the officers through the Oakland Police Department. (See *Jensen v. Superior Court* (2008) 160 Cal.App.4th 266, 272, 72 Cal.Rptr.3d 594 [“service is complete upon receipt of the subpoena by the superior or the designated agent, even though the actual delivery to the officer has not yet occurred”]; § 1328, subd. (c).)¹⁵ It is also true that “[o]ur judicial system is grounded on the sanctity of compulsory process, and it operates on the assumption that a subpoenaed witness—whether a police

officer or the President of the United States—will either obey an order to appear in court or present his excuses sufficiently in advance of the appearance date....” (*Gaines v. Municipal Court* (1980) 101 Cal.App.3d 556, 560, 161 Cal.Rptr. 704.) Nonetheless, the trial court did not abuse its discretion in denying the motion for a continuance. Mendez has not shown that either Pope or Roche would have said anything materially helpful to his defense. In this respect, this case is distinguishable from the authority relied on by Mendez, in which materiality was not disputed. (See *Jensen v. Superior Court, supra*, 160 Cal.App.4th at p. 274, 72 Cal.Rptr.3d 594; *Mendez v. Superior Court* (2008) 162 Cal.App.4th 827, 830–831, 76 Cal.Rptr.3d 538; *Gaines v. Municipal Court, supra*, 101 Cal.App.3d at pp. 559–560, 161 Cal.Rptr. 704.)

¹⁵ Section 1328, subdivision (c), provides: “If any peace officer ... is required as a witness before any court or magistrate in any action or proceeding in connection with a matter regarding an event or transaction which he or she has perceived or investigated in the course of his or her duties, a criminal subpoena issued pursuant to this chapter requiring his or her attendance may be served either by delivering a copy to the peace officer personally or by delivering two copies to his or her immediate superior or agent designated by his or her immediate superior to receive the service....”

***14** Mendez made no offer of proof with respect to either officer. The record does show that Pope gave Leonis the wallet-sized photograph of a male adult and a child that was removed from the Camaro. But, Mendez did not assert that Pope would testify that it was Mendez shown in the photograph. Nor was there any showing that Pope would be available to testify within a reasonable period of time. In fact, he was out on an undefined “death leave.” With

respect to Roche, the record shows that he would have been available “at the earliest” within about three days. The record shows only that Roche was the officer who shot Dye, and there is absolutely nothing in the record to suggest how he would have been able to provide material and noncumulative evidence in this case. Accordingly, we cannot say that the trial court abused its discretion. For the same reasons, we also reject Mendez’s constitutional claims.

D. Ineffective Assistance of Counsel

Finally, Mendez contends he was denied effective assistance of counsel because his trial counsel failed to introduce, as promised during his opening statement, evidence that Dye had previously been convicted of a felony and was on parole at the time of the shooting. Under both the Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution and article I, section 15, of the California Constitution, a criminal defendant has the right to the effective assistance of counsel. (*People v. Ledesma* (1987) 43 Cal.3d 171, 215, 233 Cal.Rptr. 404, 729 P.2d 839.) This right “entitles [the defendant] to ‘the reasonably competent assistance of an attorney acting as [the defendant’s] diligent conscientious advocate.’ [Citations.]” (*Ibid.*) To establish ineffective assistance of counsel, a defendant must show: (1) that counsel’s performance was so deficient that it fell below an objective standard of reasonableness, under prevailing professional norms and (2) that the deficient performance was prejudicial, rendering the results of the trial unreliable or fundamentally unfair. (*Strickland v. Washington* (1984) 466 U.S. 668, 688, 692,

104 S.Ct. 2052, 80 L.Ed.2d 674; *People v. Ledesma*, at pp. 216–217, 233 Cal.Rptr. 404, 729 P.2d 839.)

A defendant is entitled to raise an ineffective assistance claim on appeal instead of by way of a petition for writ of habeas corpus. But, on direct appeal, this court is limited to the record on appeal and may not speculate about matters outside that record. (*People v. Pope* (1979) 23 Cal.3d 412, 425–426, 152 Cal.Rptr. 732, 590 P.2d 859, abrogated on other grounds, as stated in *People v. Berryman* (1993) 6 Cal.4th 1048, 1081, fn. 10, 25 Cal.Rptr.2d 867, 864 P.2d 40.) “When ... defense counsel’s reasons for conducting the defense case in a particular way are not readily apparent from the record, we will not assume inadequacy of representation unless there could have been ‘‘no conceivable tactical purpose’’ for counsel’s actions. [Citations.]” (*People v. Earp* (1999) 20 Cal.4th 826, 896, 85 Cal.Rptr.2d 857, 978 P.2d 15.)

Mendez suggests that we can judicially notice facts that show a motive for Dye to commit the shooting—to avoid being searched and found with a gun.¹⁶ The record does not reveal why Mendez’s trial counsel failed to introduce the evidence that Mendez now asks us to judicially notice. But, we see several plausible reasons. As Mendez concedes, the evidence would have only tended to show a possible motive for Dye to have committed the shooting. Therefore, the evidence could well have been excluded by the trial court, pursuant to Evidence Code section 352. Although a defendant has the right to present evidence of third party culpability if it is capable of raising a reasonable doubt about the defendant’s guilt,

the evidence must do more than merely show a motive or opportunity to commit the crime. (*People v. Hall* (1986) 41 Cal.3d 826, 833, 226 Cal.Rptr. 112, 718 P.2d 99; *People v. Basuta* (2001) 94 Cal.App.4th 370, 386–387, 114 Cal.Rptr.2d 285.) “[T]here must be direct or circumstantial evidence linking the third person to the actual perpetration of the crime.” (*People v. Hall*, at p. 833, 226 Cal.Rptr. 112, 718 P.2d 99.) Furthermore, Mendez had also been convicted of a felony at the time of the shooting. Thus, Mendez’s trial counsel could very well have concluded that introducing the evidence of Dye’s status would have reinforced the prosecution’s own argument with respect to Mendez’s motive.¹⁷ We cannot say that the strategy chosen by Mendez’s trial counsel was one that competent counsel would not elect, even if Dye was subject to a warrantless search condition and Mendez was not. Mendez’s ineffective assistance claim fails.

¹⁶ Mendez filed a request for judicial notice of a probation minute order from the Alameda Superior Court. It states that Dye was convicted of a felony in 2004, given five years probation, and subject to a search condition. The People opposed the request. We originally deferred ruling on Mendez’s request. We have discretion to take judicial notice of the records of a court of this state. (Evid.Code, § 452, subd. (d).) However, we ordinarily do not take judicial notice of matters not presented to the trial court. (*People v. Preslie* (1977) 70 Cal.App.3d 486, 493, 138 Cal.Rptr. 828.) We note that, to the extent Mendez’s claim of ineffective assistance of counsel requires consideration of facts outside the record, it is more appropriately considered in the habeas corpus proceeding. (See *People v. Mendoza Tello* (1997) 15 Cal.4th 264, 266–267, 62 Cal.Rptr.2d 437, 933 P.2d 1134.) Nonetheless, because the minute order is a proper subject of judicial notice and is essential to considering an issue raised on appeal, we grant the request for judicial notice.

¹⁷ The prosecutor argued to the jury: “Remember, when the lights and siren comes on, that’s when [Mendez] starts thinking. He knows he has a gun and should not

have a gun. He's a felon. Felons aren't supposed to have guns. Now, on top of all of that, he's been drinking. You have a motorcycle cop behind you. You've had a little bit of alcohol and you're a felon in possession of a gun. You got choices to make."

E. Cumulative Error

*15 Finally, Mendez argues that the cumulative effect of the trial court's errors requires reversal of the judgment. We have largely rejected Mendez's arguments on the merits. Mendez was entitled to a trial "in which his guilt or innocence was fairly adjudicated." (*People v. Hill* (1998) 17 Cal.4th 800, 844, 72 Cal.Rptr.2d 656, 952 P.2d 673.) He received such a trial.

F. Stay of Punishment on Count Three Pursuant to Section 654

In their respondents' brief, the People ask us to address, pursuant to section 1252, whether the trial court improperly stayed punishment on count three, discharging a weapon from a motor vehicle.¹⁸

¹⁸ Section 1252 provides, in relevant part: "On an appeal by a defendant, the appellate court shall, in addition to the issues raised by the defendant, consider and pass upon all rulings of the trial court adverse to the State which it may be requested to pass upon by the Attorney General."

Section 654, subdivision (a) provides: "An act or omission that is punishable in different ways by different provisions of law shall be punished under the provision that provides for the longest potential term of imprisonment, but in no case shall the act or omission be punished under more than one

provision. An acquittal or conviction and sentence under any one bars a prosecution for the same act or omission under any other." The protections of section 654 have been extended to cases "in which several offenses are committed during a course of conduct deemed to be indivisible in time. [Citation.]" (*People v. Palacios* (2007) 41 Cal.4th 720, 727, 62 Cal.Rptr.3d 145, 161 P.3d 519.)

An exception to section 654 has been applied in "multiple victim" situations. "The purpose of the protection against multiple punishment is to insure that the defendant's punishment will be commensurate with his criminal liability. A defendant who commits an act of violence with the intent to harm more than one person or by a means likely to cause harm to several persons is more culpable than a defendant who harms only one person. For example, a defendant who chooses a means of murder that places a plane load of passengers in danger, or results in injury to many persons, is properly subject to greater punishment than a defendant who chooses a means that harms only a single person. This distinction between an act of violence against the person that violates more than one statute and such an act that harms more than one person is well settled. Section 654 is not "... applicable where ... one act has two results each of which is an act of violence against the person of a separate individual." [Citations.]' [Citation.]" (*People v. Oates* (2004) 32 Cal.4th 1048, 1063, 12 Cal.Rptr.3d 325, 88 P.3d 56.)

"The question whether section 654 is factually applicable ... is for the trial court, and the law gives the trial court broad

latitude in making this determination. Its findings on this question must be upheld on appeal if there is any substantial evidence to support them. [Citations.]” (*People v. Hutchins* (2001) 90 Cal.App.4th 1308, 1312, 109 Cal.Rptr.2d 643.)

At sentencing, the People conceded that section 654 applied to count three and that the punishment should be stayed. Now, the People argue “this was an improper concession on [their] part ... because section 654 does not apply to multiple offenses in which there are separate victims.” We may review their new argument on appeal. “It is well settled ... that the court acts ‘in excess of its jurisdiction’ and imposes an ‘unauthorized’ sentence when it erroneously stays or fails to stay execution of a sentence under section 654. [Citations.]” (*People v. Scott* (1994) 9 Cal.4th 331, 354, fn. 17, 36 Cal.Rptr.2d 627, 885 P.2d 1040.) An “unauthorized sentence” can be corrected whenever it is brought to the reviewing court’s attention, even if no objection was made below and the People raise the issue in connection with a defendant’s appeal. (*Ibid*; *People v. Crooks* (1997) 55 Cal.App.4th 797, 811, 64 Cal.Rptr.2d 236.)

***16** The People argue that McDonald was not the only victim in this case, pointing to the fact that a bullet was found in a nearby house. But, there was no evidence that

anyone was present inside the house at the time of the shooting. Furthermore, the amended information in this case, made clear that the People relied on the same acts, and the same victim, for count one and count three. With respect to count three, the People alleged that Mendez “personally inflicted great bodily injury upon Officer Kevin P. McDonald....” Because of the way count three was charged and the evidence presented at trial, we fail to see how the trial court reasonably could have found counts one and three involved different victims. The court properly stayed punishment on count three.

III. DISPOSITION

The judgment is affirmed.

We concur: **JONES**, P.J., and **SIMONS**, J.

All Citations

Not Reported in Cal.Rptr.3d, 2011 WL 6396513

APPENDIX G

649

ABSTRACT OF JUDGMENT – PRISON COMMITMENT - INDETERMINATE

[NOT VALID WITHOUT COMPLETED PAGE TWO OF CR-292 ATTACHED]

CR-292

JUDICIAL COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA vs. DEFENDANT: JESSE WILLIAM MENDEZ		DOB: 04-06-81	158737	-A
AKA:				-B
CII#: 25476773				
BOOKING INFORMATION: PFN: BAW482 CEN: 7238795		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT PRESENT		-C
COMMITMENT TO STATE PRISON ABSTRACT OF JUDGMENT		<input type="checkbox"/> AMENDED ABSTRACT		-D
DATE OF HEARING 03-29-10	DEPT. NO. 008	JUDGE VERNON NAKAHARA		
CLERK Kristi O'Hern	REPORTER Chris Swinderman	PROBATION NO. OR PROBATION OFFICER N/A		
COUNSEL FOR PEOPLE Autrey James	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deputy District Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> State Attorney General	COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT Thomas Broome		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Public Defender <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Counsel		

1. Defendant was convicted of the commission of the following felonies:

Additional counts are listed on attachment
(number of pages attached)

2. ENHANCEMENTS charged and found to be true TIED TO SPECIFIC COUNTS (mainly in the PC 12022 series). List each count enhancement horizontally. Enter time imposed or "S" for stayed. DO NOT LIST ANY STRICKEN ENHANCEMENT(S).

3. ENHANCEMENTS charged and found to be true FOR PRIOR CONVICTION OR PRISON TERMS (mainly in the PC 667 series). List all enhancements horizontally. Enter time imposed for each or "S" for stayed. DO NOT LIST ANY STRICKEN ENHANCEMENT(S).

ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	TOTAL

Defendant was sentenced to State Prison for an INDETERMINATE TERM as follows

4. LIFE WITHOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF PAROLE on counts _____
5. LIFE WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF PAROLE on counts 1
6. a. 15 years to Life on counts _____ c. _____ years to Life on counts _____
b. 25 years to Life on counts _____ d. _____ years to Life on counts _____

PLUS enhancement time shown above.

Additional determinate term (see CR-290).

Defendant was sentenced pursuant to PC 667(b)-(i) or PC 1170.12 PC 667.61 PC 667.7 other (specify): _____
This form is prescribed under PC 1213.5 to satisfy the requirements of PC 1213 for indeterminate sentences. Attachments may be used but must be referred to in this document.

This form is prescribed under PC 1213.5 to satisfy the requirements of PC 1213 for indeterminate sentences. Attachments may be used but must be referred to in this document.

Form Adopted for Mandatory Use
Judicial Council of California
CR-292 (Rev. July 1, 2009)

**ABSTRACT OF JUDGMENT – PRISON COMMITMENT – INDETERMINATE
[NOT VALID WITHOUT COMPLETED PAGE TWO OF CR-292 ATTACHED]**

**Penal Code
§§ 1213, 1213.5**

ER1072

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA vs.
DEFENDANT: JESSE W. MENDEZ

158737	-A	-B	-C	-D
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9. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS (including any applicable penalty assessments):

a. Restitution Fine(s):

Case A: \$1000.00 per PC 1202.4(b) forthwith per PC 2085.5; \$1000.00 per PC 1202.45 suspended unless parole is revoked.
\$_____ per PC 1202.44 is now due, probation having been revoked.
Case B: \$_____ per PC 1202.4(b) forthwith per PC 2085.5; \$_____ per PC 1202.45 suspended unless parole is revoked.
\$_____ per PC 1202.44 is now due, probation having been revoked.
Case C: \$_____ per PC 1202.4(b) forthwith per PC 2085.5; \$_____ per PC 1202.45 suspended unless parole is revoked.
\$_____ per PC 1202.44 is now due, probation having been revoked.
Case D: \$_____ per PC 1202.4(b) forthwith per PC 2085.5; \$_____ per PC 1202.45 suspended unless parole is revoked.
\$_____ per PC 1202.44 is now due, probation having been revoked.

b. Restitution per PC 1202.4(f):

Case A: \$_____ Amount to be determined to victim(s)* Restitution Fund
Case B: \$_____ Amount to be determined to victim(s)* Restitution Fund
Case C: \$_____ Amount to be determined to victim(s)* Restitution Fund
Case D: \$_____ Amount to be determined to victim(s)* Restitution Fund

* Victim name(s), if known and amount breakdown in item 11, below. * Victim name(s) in probation officer's report.

c. Fine(s):

Case A: \$_____ per PC 1202.5. \$_____ per VC 23550 or _____ days county jail prison in lieu of fine concurrent consecutive
 includes: \$50 Lab Fee per HS 11372.5(a) \$_____ Drug Program Fee per HS 11372.7(a) for each qualifying offense
Case B: \$_____ per PC 1202.5. \$_____ per VC 23550 or _____ days county jail prison in lieu of fine concurrent consecutive
 includes: \$50 Lab Fee per HS 11372.5(a) \$_____ Drug Program Fee per HS 11372.7(a) for each qualifying offense
Case C: \$_____ per PC 1202.5. \$_____ per VC 23550 or _____ days county jail prison in lieu of fine concurrent consecutive
 includes: \$50 Lab Fee per HS 11372.5(a) \$_____ Drug Program Fee per HS 11372.7(a) for each qualifying offense
Case D: \$_____ per PC 1202.5. \$_____ per VC 23550 or _____ days county jail prison in lieu of fine concurrent consecutive
 includes: \$50 Lab Fee per HS 11372.5(a) \$_____ Drug Program Fee per HS 11372.7(a) for each qualifying offense

d. Court Security Fee: \$90.00 per PC 1465.8. e. Criminal Conviction Assessment: \$90.00 per GC 70373.

10. TESTING: a. Compliance with PC 296 verified b. AIDS per PC 1202.1 c. other (specify): **PC 296**

11. OTHER ORDERS (specify): Probation Investigation Fee ordered \$250.00. Restitution is reserved and to be determined.

12. IMMEDIATE SENTENCING

Probation to prepare and submit post-sentence report to CDCR per PC 1203c. Defendant's race/national origin: H

13. EXECUTION OF SENTENCING IMPOSED

a. at initial sentencing hearing.
b. at resentencing per decision on appeal.
c. after revocation of probation.

d. at resentencing per recall of commitment. (PC 1170(d).)
e. other (specify):

14. CREDIT FOR TIME SERVED

CASE	TOTAL CREDITS	ACTUAL	LOCAL CONDUCT	CASE	TOTAL CREDITS	ACTUAL	LOCAL CONDUCT
A			<input type="checkbox"/> 4019 <input type="checkbox"/> 2933.1	C			<input type="checkbox"/> 4019 <input type="checkbox"/> 2933.1
B			<input type="checkbox"/> 4019 <input type="checkbox"/> 2933.1	D			<input type="checkbox"/> 4019 <input type="checkbox"/> 2933.1

DATE SENTENCE PRONOUNCED:
03-29-10

TIME SERVED IN STATE INSTITUTION
DMH () CDC () CRC ()

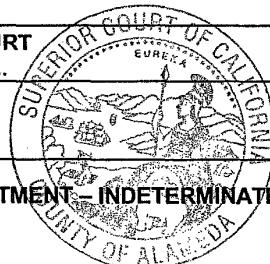
15. Defendant is remanded to the custody of the sheriff: forthwith after 48 hours excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.
To be delivered to: the reception center designated by director, California Dept. of Corrections and Rehabilitation: San Quentin Chowchilla
 other (specify):

CLERK OF THE COURT

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a correct abstract of the judgment made in this action.

SPUTY'S SIGNATURE 
Kristi O'Hern

DATE
03-29-10



651

CR-290

ABSTRACT OF JUDGMENT - PRISON COMMITMENT - DETERMINATE
[NOT VALID WITHOUT COMPLETED PAGE TWO OF CR-290 ATTACHED]

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA JUDGE OR JUDICIAL DISTRICT: RENE C. DAVIDSON COURTHOUSE			
PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA vs. DEFENDANT: JESSE WILLIAM MENDEZ		DOB: 04-06-81	158737 -A
AKA: CII#: 25476773			-B
BOOKING INFORMATION: PFN: BAW482 CEN: 7238795		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT PRESENT	-C
COMMITMENT TO STATE PRISON ABSTRACT OF JUDGMENT		<input type="checkbox"/> AMENDED ABSTRACT	-D
DATE OF HEARING 03-29-10	DEPT. NO. 008	JUDGE VERNON NAKAHARA	
CLERK Kristi O'Hern	REPORTER Chris Swinderman	PROBATION NUMBER OR PROBATION OFFICER n/a	
COUNSEL FOR PEOPLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deputy District Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> State Attorney General		COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT <input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Public Defender <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Counsel Thomas Broome, Esq.	

9. Defendant was convicted of the commission of the following felonies:

Additional counts are listed on attachment
(number of pages attached)

COUNT	CODE	SECTION NO.	CRIME	YEAR CRIME COMMITTED	DATE OF CONVICTION (Month/Date/Year)	Convicted by			Term (L, M, U)	Concurrent	Consecutive 1/3 Violent	Consecutive 1/3 NON Violent	Consecutive Full Term	Incomplete sentence (refer to Item 5)	664 Stay	Principal or Consecutive Time Imposed	
						JURY	COURT	PLEA								YRS.	MOS.
2	PC	12021(a)(1)	Poss. of a Firearm by Felon - Priors	2007	02-08-10	X		U		X						3	0
3	PC	12034(d)	Shooting fr a Motor Vehicle	2007	02-08-10	X		U									X
						-	-										
						-	-										
						-	-										

9. ENHANCEMENTS charged and found to be true TIED TO SPECIFIC COUNTS (mainly in the PC 12022 series). List each count enhancement horizontally. Enter time imposed or "S" for stayed. DO NOT LIST ANY STRICKEN ENHANCEMENT(S).

COUNT	ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	TOTAL
3	12022.5(a)	S					

9. ENHANCEMENTS charged and found to be true FOR PRIOR CONVICTION OR PRISON TERMS (mainly in the PC 667 series). List all enhancements horizontally. Enter time imposed or "S" for stayed. DO NOT LIST ANY STRICKEN ENHANCEMENT(S).

ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	TOTAL

9. Defendant was sentenced PER: PC 667 (b)-(i) or PC 1170.12 (two-strikes)

PC 1170(a)(3). Pre-confinement credits equal or exceed time imposed (Paper Commitment). Deft. ordered to report to local Parole Office upon release.

5. INCOMPLETE SENTENCE(S) CONSECUTIVE

6. TOTAL TIME ON ATTACHED PAGES:

COUNTY	CASE NUMBER

7. Additional indeterminate term (see CR-292).

8. TOTAL TIME excluding county jail term: 3 0

This form is prescribed under PC 1213.5 to satisfy the requirements of PC 1213 for determinate sentences. Attachments may be used but must be referred to in this document.

Form Adopted for Mandatory Use

Judicial Council of California

CR-290 (Rev. January 1, 2007)

ABSTRACT OF JUDGMENT - PRISON COMMITMENT - DETERMINATE

Penal Code

§§ 1213, 1213.5

ER1074

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA vs.
DEFENDANT: JESSE WILLIAM MENDEZ

158737	-A	-B	-C	-D
--------	----	----	----	----

9. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS (including any applicable penalty assessments):

i. Restitution Fines(s):

Case A: \$ _____ per PC 1202.4(b) forthwith per PC 2085.5; \$ _____ per PC 1202.45 suspended unless parole is revoked.
\$ _____ per PC 1202.44 is now due, probation having been revoked.
Case B: \$ _____ per PC 1202.4(b) forthwith per PC 2085.5; \$ _____ per PC 1202.45 suspended unless parole is revoked.
\$ _____ per PC 1202.44 is now due, probation having been revoked.
Case C: \$ _____ per PC 1202.4(b) forthwith per PC 2085.5; \$ _____ per PC 1202.45 suspended unless parole is revoked.
\$ _____ per PC 1202.44 is now due, probation having been revoked.
Case D: \$ _____ per PC 1202.4(b) forthwith per PC 2085.5; \$ _____ per PC 1202.45 suspended unless parole is revoked.
\$ _____ per PC 1202.44 is now due, probation having been revoked.

j. Restitution per PC 1202.4(f):

Case A: \$ _____ Amount to be determined to: victim(s)* Restitution Fund
Case B: \$ _____ Amount to be determined to: victim(s)* Restitution Fund
Case C: \$ _____ Amount to be determined to: victim(s)* Restitution Fund
Case D: \$ _____ Amount to be determined to: victim(s)* Restitution Fund

* Victim name(s) if known and amount breakdown in item 11, below. * Victim name(s) in probation officer's report.

k. Fine(s):

Case A: \$ _____ per PC 1202.5. \$ _____ per VC 23550 or _____ days county jail prison in lieu of fine concurrent consecutive
 includes: \$50 Lab Fee per HS 11372.5(a) \$ _____ Drug Program Fee per HS 11372.(a) for each qualifying offense
Case B: \$ _____ per PC 1202.5. \$ _____ per VC 23550 or _____ days county jail prison in lieu of fine concurrent consecutive
 includes: \$50 Lab Fee per HS 11372.5(a) \$ _____ Drug Program Fee per HS 11372.(a) for each qualifying offense
Case C: \$ _____ per PC 1202.5. \$ _____ per VC 23550 or _____ days county jail prison in lieu of fine concurrent consecutive
 includes: \$50 Lab Fee per HS 11372.5(a) \$ _____ Drug Program Fee per HS 11372.(a) for each qualifying offense
Case D: \$ _____ per PC 1202.5. \$ _____ per VC 23550 or _____ days county jail prison in lieu of fine concurrent consecutive
 includes: \$50 Lab Fee per HS 11372.5(a) \$ _____ Drug Program Fee per HS 11372.(a) for each qualifying offense

l. Court Security Fee: \$ _____ per PC 1465.8.

9. TESTING: a. Compliance with PC 296 verified b. DNA per PC 296 c. AIDS per PC 1202.1 d. other (specify): _____

9. OTHER ORDERS (specify): _____

9. IMMEDIATE SENTENCING

Probation to prepare and submit post-sentence report to CDCR per PC 1203c. Defendant's race/national origin: _____

10. EXECUTION OF SENTENCE IMPOSED

a. at initial sentencing hearing
b. at resentencing per decision on appeal
c. after revocation of probation

d. at resentencing per recall of commitment (PC 1170(d))
e. other (specify): _____

9. CREDIT FOR TIME SERVED

CASE	TOTAL CREDITS	ACTUAL	LOCAL CONDUCT		CASE	TOTAL CREDITS	ACTUAL	LOCAL CONDUCT	
A	1191	1036	155	<input type="checkbox"/> 4019	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2933.1	C		<input type="checkbox"/> 4019	<input type="checkbox"/> 2933.1
B				<input type="checkbox"/> 4019	<input type="checkbox"/> 2933.1	D		<input type="checkbox"/> 4019	<input type="checkbox"/> 2933.1

DATE SENTENCE PRONOUNCED:
03-29-10

TIME SERVED IN STATE INSTITUTION
DMH () CDC () CRC ()

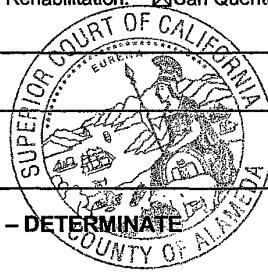
10. Defendant is remanded to the custody of the sheriff: forthwith after 48 hours excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.
To be delivered to: the reception center designated by director, California Dept. of Corrections and Rehabilitation: San Quentin Chowchilla
 other (specify): _____

CLERK OF THE COURT

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a correct abstract of the judgment made in this action.

DEPUTY'S SIGNATURE
Kristi O'Hern

DATE
03-29-10



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

Dept. No. 008

Date: March 29, 2010

Hon. VERNON NAKAHARA, Judge

Kristi O'Hern, Deputy Clerk
Chris Swinderman, Reporter

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA	Counsel appearing for Plaintiff	Autrey James, Deputy District Attorney
vs.	Counsel appearing for Defendant	Thomas Broome, Esq.
JESSE WILLIAM MENDEZ,	Probation Officer appearing	N/A Deputy

Nature of Proceedings:

REPORT & SENTENCE

Case No.: 158737
PFN: BAW482
CEN: 7238795

Defendant is present.

The following people addressed the Court: Officer Kevin P. McDonald, Joseph Mendez, Jesse Mendez.

Defendant was convicted by jury of the felony offense(s) shown below. The defendant waives formal arraignment for sentence and has no legal cause to show why the judgment of this Court should not be pronounced against him/her.

The Court pronounces judgment. Defendant is to be punished by imprisonment in the State Prison of the State of California

COUNT 1: A187/664(e)(1) - Attempted Murder on Peace Officer - LIFE WITH POSSIBILITY OF PAROLE

COUNT	ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	TOTAL
1	12022.53(c)	20 Y	12022.53(b)	S	12022.5(a)	S	20 0

COUNT	CODE	SECTION NO.	CRIME	YEAR CRIME COMMITTED	DATE OF CONVICTION (Month/Date/Year)	JURY	COURT	PLEA	Convicted by		Term (L,M,U)	Concurrent	Consecutive 1/3 Violent	Consecutive 1/3 Non Violent	Consecutive Full Term	Incomplete sentence (refer to Item 5)	Principal or Consecutive Time Imposed	
									YRS.	MOS.								
2	PC	12021(a)(1)	Poss. of a Firearm by Felon - Priors	2007	02-08-10	X		U			X						3	0
3	PC	12034(d)	Shooting fr a Motor Vehicle	2007	02-08-10	X		U									X	
COUNT	ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	ENHANCEMENT	TIME IMPOSED OR "S" FOR STAYED	TOTAL											
3	12022.5(a)	S																

Total Term: LIFE WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF PAROLE - COUNT 1.

~3 YEARS STATE PRISON CONSECUTIVE TO COUNT 1.

Defendant is ordered to pay Restitution Fine of \$1000.00 pursuant to Penal Code section 1202.4(b) and an additional Parole Restitution Fine of \$1000.00 pursuant to Penal Code section 1202.45 is suspended pending successful completion of parole.

GE 2 OF 2
People vs. Jesse W. Mendez
Case no. 158737

Defendant is ordered to pay a Court Security Fee in the amount of \$90.00 (Penal Code section 1465.8).
Defendant is ordered to pay a Criminal Conviction Fee in the amount of \$90.00 (GC 70373).

Defendant is ordered to pay a Probation Investigation Fee in the amount of \$250.00 (Penal Code section 1203.1b).

Defendant is to submit to blood/saliva sample for DNA testing (Penal Code section 296).

Restitution is reserved and to be determined.

Defendant is advised of his/her appeal rights.

Defendant is remanded to the custody of the Sheriff of the County of Alameda to be delivered by him to Director of Corrections at the California State Prison at San Quentin, San Quentin, California.

APPENDIX H

FILED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

AUG 22 2018

MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK
U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

JESSE WILLIAM MENDEZ,
Petitioner-Appellant,
v.
GARY SWARTHOUT, Warden,
Respondent-Appellee,
and
SCOTT FRAUENHEIM, Warden,
Respondent.

No. 16-15026

D.C. No. 3:13-cv-02797-EMC
Northern District of California,
San Francisco

ORDER

Before: BEA and N.R. SMITH, Circuit Judges, and LASNIK,* District Judge.

The panel has unanimously voted to deny Appellant's petition for rehearing.

Appellant's petition for panel rehearing is therefore DENIED.

* The Honorable Robert S. Lasnik, United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, sitting by designation.