

No. \_\_\_\_\_

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IN THE  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ,

*Petitioner,*

v.

DEBBIE ASUNCION,

*Respondent.*

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On Petition for a Writ of Certiorari to the  
United States Court of Appeals  
for the Ninth Circuit

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**APPENDIX TO PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI**

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## APPENDIX TO PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI

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# **PETITIONER'S APPENDIX 1**

**FILED**

**NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

DEC 14 2018

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

JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ,

Petitioner-Appellant,

v.

DEBBIE ASUNCION, Warden,

Respondent-Appellee.

No. 17-55360

D.C. No.  
2:12-cv-07494-RGK-MRW

MEMORANDUM\*

Appeal from the United States District Court  
for the Central District of California  
R. Gary Klausner, District Judge, Presiding

Argued and Submitted November 16, 2018  
Pasadena, California

Before: W. FLETCHER and PAEZ, Circuit Judges, and GLEASON, \*\* District Judge.

In 2002, Juan Alvarez (“Alvarez”) was convicted by a state court jury of attempted murder, assault with a firearm, and eluding a police officer. At the time of his trial, Alvarez suffered from Graves’ disease, a form of hyperthyroidism.

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

\*\* The Honorable Sharon L. Gleason, United States District Judge for the District of Alaska, sitting by designation.

Although Graves' disease can affect a person's mental state, Alvarez's counsel did not investigate whether Alvarez was competent to stand trial. Beginning in 2011, Alvarez filed several state court habeas petitions as well as a federal habeas petition. In 2016, the California Supreme Court denied habeas relief on the merits. And in 2017, the district court denied Alvarez's 28 U.S.C. § 2254 petition. Alvarez appeals the district court's denial of his habeas petition, raising a substantive incompetence claim and an ineffective assistance of counsel claim, both of which he raised in his state habeas petitions.

We have jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1291 and 2253, and we affirm.

**1.** Alvarez argues that he was tried while incompetent in violation of his due process rights.<sup>1</sup> In order to stand trial, a defendant must "ha[ve] sufficient present ability to consult with his lawyer with a reasonable degree of rational understanding—and . . . ha[ve] a rational as well as factual understanding of the proceedings against him." *Dusky v. United States*, 362 U.S. 402, 402 (1960).

Here, there is ample evidence in the record that Alvarez both understood the proceedings against him and had a present ability to consult with his lawyer. According to Alvarez's counsel, Alvarez participated in his own defense by

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<sup>1</sup> Alvarez only raises a substantive incompetence claim on appeal. Although Alvarez alleged a procedural incompetence claim in his habeas petition—arguing that the trial judge should have conducted a competency hearing *sua sponte*—he has not pursued that argument on appeal.

providing an alibi, testifying to this alibi at his trial, and identifying an additional witness who could support his alibi. Alvarez also made an informed decision to reject a favorable plea deal after discussions with his counsel and the trial judge. When the trial court judge asked Alvarez if he still wished to go to trial, Alvarez stated that he did. Because Alvarez's decision-making and participation in his defense indicate that he was competent to stand trial, the district court properly denied habeas relief on this ground.

**2.** In addition to his substantive incompetence claim, Alvarez alleges that he received ineffective assistance of counsel—in violation of his Sixth Amendment rights—because Alvarez's trial counsel did not investigate whether he was competent to stand trial. To establish ineffective assistance of counsel, a defendant must show that counsel's performance was deficient and that this deficient performance prejudiced the defense. *Strickland v. Washington*, 466 U.S. 668, 687 (1984).

The record demonstrates that Alvarez's trial counsel was aware of Alvarez's hyperthyroidism; indeed, trial counsel referenced Alvarez's condition several times throughout the trial proceedings to explain his unusual behavior. Despite observing that Alvarez's condition “makes him react more nervously than the normal human being would,” trial counsel did not investigate Alvarez's competency to stand trial. Even assuming that counsel's failure to investigate

Alvarez's competency constituted deficient performance, Alvarez cannot show prejudice. For the reasons previously discussed, it is not reasonably probable that the trial court would have found Alvarez incompetent to stand trial had his counsel raised the issue. Thus, the district court did not err in denying habeas relief on this claim.

3. Because we affirm the district court's denial of habeas on the merits, we need not decide whether Alvarez's claims were procedurally barred.

**AFFIRMED.**

## **PETITIONER'S APPENDIX 2**

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ,  
Petitioner,  
v.  
BRENDA M. CASH, Ward  
Respondent

Case No. CV 12-7494 RGK (MRW)

## JUDGMENT

Pursuant to the Order Accepting Findings and Recommendations of the United States Magistrate Judge,

IT IS ADJUDGED that the petition is denied and this action is dismissed with prejudice.

DATE: March 3, 2017

HON. R. GARY KLAUSNER  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

# **PETITIONER'S APPENDIX 3**

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ,

Petitioner,

V.

BRENDA M. CASH, Warden,

## Respondent.

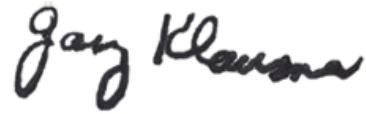
Case No. CV 12-7494 RGK (MRW)

ORDER ACCEPTING FINDINGS  
AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE  
JUDGE

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636, the Court reviewed the petition, the records on file, and the Report and Recommendation of the United States Magistrate Judge. Further, the Court engaged in a de novo review of those portions of the Report to which Petitioner objected. The Court accepts the findings and recommendation of the Magistrate Judge.

1 IT IS ORDERED that Judgment be entered denying the petition and  
2 dismissing this action with prejudice.

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4 DATE: March 3, 2017  
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HON. R. GARY KLAUSNER  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

# **PETITIONER'S APPENDIX 4**

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ,  
Petitioner,  
v.  
BRENDA M. CASH, Ward  
Respondent

Case No. CV 12-7494 RGK (MRW)

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION  
OF UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE  
JUDGE**

This Report and Recommendation is submitted to the Honorable R. Gary Klausner, United States District Judge, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636 and General Order 05-07 of the United States District Court for the Central District of California.

## **SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATION**

This is a habeas action involving a state prisoner. A jury convicted Petitioner of attempted murder for shooting his neighbor. The core of Petitioner's action is his claim that his now-obvious mental health problems should have led the trial judge and his defense lawyer to take different actions at

1 the time of trial. He also raises other constitutional claims regarding his  
2 conviction and appeal.

3 However, on federal habeas review, the Court concludes the state court  
4 decision denying Petitioner's claims was neither contrary to, nor an unreasonable  
5 application of, clearly established federal law. As a result, the Court  
6 recommends that the petition be denied.

7 **FACTS AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

8 **Trial Proceedings**

9 Petitioner ambushed his neighbor outside their apartment complex in the  
10 middle of the night. Petitioner fired several shots at the victim with a handgun,  
11 striking him twice. Petitioner then fled in his car. (Lodgment # 2, 2RT  
12 at 48-61.)

13 The neighbor survived the shooting. He testified at trial that Petitioner  
14 was the assailant. Another neighbor heard the gunshots and identified  
15 Petitioner's car leaving the scene. (Id. at 47-66, 119-22.) A police officer  
16 located Petitioner driving that car about a half-hour later, and arrested him after a  
17 chase. (3RT at 152-59.)

18 Petitioner testified in his defense. He denied shooting the neighbor, and  
19 stated that he was at a friend's house at the time of the shooting. (Id. at 192,  
20 196-99.) Petitioner's friend corroborated that testimony. (Id. at 245-46.)

21 Nevertheless, the jury found Petitioner guilty of attempted premeditated  
22 murder, assault with a firearm, and evading the police, with weapon and great  
23 bodily injury enhancements. (Id. at 401-04.) The trial court sentenced Petitioner  
24 to a life term in prison plus a consecutive term of 25 years to life. (Id. at 413.)

25 **Appellate and Habeas Proceedings**

26 The state appellate court affirmed Petitioner's conviction on direct appeal.  
27 In a brief, unpublished opinion, the appellate court found no error regarding  
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1 Petitioner's claim that the trial court should have instructed the jury regarding  
2 attempted voluntary manslaughter instead of murder.<sup>1</sup> Petitioner did not file a  
3 petition for review. His conviction became final by January 2004.

4 In 2011 and early 2012, Petitioner filed numerous habeas actions in state  
5 court. The state courts uniformly and summarily denied relief without  
6 substantive discussion of Petitioner's claims. (Lodgment # 6-18.)

7 This federal action began in mid-2012. The original petition was clearly  
8 untimely by many years. However, due to Petitioner's apparent mental health  
9 issues, the Court (Magistrate Judge Wilner) appointed the Federal Public  
10 Defender to represent him. (Docket # 4-6.) The Court subsequently found that  
11 Petitioner was entitled to equitable tolling of the federal limitations period –  
12 which made his federal action timely – based on his “long, documented history  
13 of severe mental health conditions.” (Docket # 83.)

14 Petitioner filed a First Amended Petition that raised several new claims.  
15 (Docket # 33.) The Court stayed the federal action to allow Petitioner to present  
16 these claims in state court. (Docket # 84, 85.) The state superior and appellate  
17 courts denied relief on procedural grounds. However, the state supreme court  
18 denied relief “on the merits” of Petitioner's claims. (Docket # 94-1.)

19 **DISCUSSION**

20 **Standard of Review Under AEDPA**

21 Under AEDPA, federal courts may grant habeas relief to a state prisoner  
22 “with respect to any claim that was adjudicated on the merits in State court  
23 proceedings” only if that adjudication:

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26 <sup>1</sup> The Attorney General lodged a hard copy of the appellate decision  
27 on direct appeal at an earlier stage of this action. For ease of reference, the Court  
28 refers to the iteration of the decision available online at People v. Alvarez, 2003  
WL 22977564 (Cal. App. 2003).

(1) resulted in a decision that was contrary to, or involved an unreasonable application of, clearly established Federal law, as determined by the Supreme Court of the United States; or (2) resulted in a decision that was based on an unreasonable determination of the facts in light of the evidence presented in the State court proceeding.

28 U.S.C. § 2254(d).

In a habeas action, this Court generally reviews the reasonableness of the state court's last reasoned decision on a prisoner's claims. Murray v. Schriro, 746 F.3d 418, 441 (9th Cir. 2014); Harrington v. Richter, 562 U.S. 86, 99 (2011). Here, the state appellate court's opinion on direct appeal was the last reasoned decision addressing Petitioner's instructional error and related ineffective assistance claim.<sup>2</sup> That decision will be reviewed for reasonableness.

The state supreme court denied the remainder of Petitioner’s claims on habeas review without explanation, but “on the merits.”<sup>3</sup> (Docket # 94-1.) Because the state court’s decision was “unaccompanied by an explanation” of its reasoning, AEDPA requires the Court to perform an “independent review of the record” to determine “whether the state court’s decision was objectively unreasonable.” Richter, 562 U.S. at 98. When the state court does not explain

<sup>2</sup> Petitioner presented his instructional and IAC claims to the state supreme court on habeas review over a decade after the conclusion of his direct appeal. Nevertheless, given (a) the supreme court’s statements that it reached the merits of Petitioner’s claims and (b) the court’s citation to Ylst v. Nunnemaker, 501 U.S. 797, 803 (1991), the Court concludes that it is appropriate to “look through” the silent denial of these specific claims to evaluate the brief (but reasoned) explanation in the appellate court’s earlier decision.

<sup>3</sup> The Attorney General argues that all of Petitioner’s claims are procedurally defaulted. (Docket # 100 at 25-31.) Could be, but the Court declines to take up these complex issues. The state supreme court expressly considered Petitioner’s substantive claims which, on deferential AEDPA review, the Court finds to be meritless. Boyd v. Thompson, 147 F.3d 1124, 1127 (9th Cir. 1998) (a district court “may, in its discretion, reach the merits of a habeas claim” that is clearly meritless “to further the interests of comity, federalism, and judicial efficiency.”); Ellis v. Armenakis, 222 F.3d 627, 631 (9th Cir. 2000) (when claim fails on merits, interests of judicial efficiency may be “better served by addressing claim on merits rather than default”).

1 the basis for its rejection of a prisoner's claim, a federal habeas court "must  
2 determine what arguments or theories [ ] could have supported the state court's  
3 decision" in evaluating its reasonableness. Id. at 102.

4 Overall, AEDPA presents "a formidable barrier to federal habeas relief for  
5 prisoners whose claims have been adjudicated in state court." Burt v. Titlow,  
6 \_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_, 134 S. Ct. 10, 16 (2013). On habeas review, AEDPA places on a  
7 prisoner the burden to show that the state court's decision "was so lacking in  
8 justification that there was an error well understood and comprehended in  
9 existing law beyond any possibility for fairminded disagreement" among  
10 "fairminded jurists." Richter, 562 U.S. at 101, 103. Federal habeas corpus  
11 review therefore serves as "a guard against extreme malfunctions in the state  
12 criminal justice systems, not a substitute for ordinary error correction" in the  
13 state court system. Id. at 102.

14 **Claims Involving Petitioner's Competency (Grounds 1-3)**

15 Petitioner contends that he was mentally incompetent to stand trial. He  
16 argues that the trial court erred by failing to conduct a competency hearing  
17 sua sponte. Relatedly, Petitioner claims that his lawyer was constitutionally  
18 ineffective for failing to investigate his mental health problems, request a  
19 competency hearing, or pursue an insanity-related defense. (Docket # 41  
20 at 29-39, 44-45, 50-51; Docket # 113 at 20-23; 25-29.)

21 **Relevant Facts**

22 Petitioner suffers from hyperthyroidism. This ailment can lead to severe  
23 psychiatric problems. On habeas review, both sides attempt to convince the  
24 Court whether Petitioner's current mental health problems were known or  
25 reasonably should have been apparent during the criminal trial in 2002.

26 An overwhelming amount of proof establishes that Petitioner's condition  
27 deteriorated seriously after trial and during the years of post-trial incarceration in  
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1 prison. While in state prison, Petitioner was institutionalized and forcibly  
2 medicated due to profound, objectively-observed mental health problems.  
3 Numerous prison and jail medical records show diagnoses of serious psychiatric  
4 conditions, hospitalizations, and a considerable amount of treatment in recent  
5 years.

6 A psychiatrist whom the Federal Public Defender retained during the  
7 equitable tolling proceedings of this federal habeas action examined Petitioner  
8 and his medical history. Dr. Lavid concluded that Petitioner suffers from  
9 psychosis and delusional disorder. Based on a review of medical records,  
10 statements from witnesses (mentioned below), and Petitioner's post-conviction  
11 status, the practitioner retrospectively concluded that Petitioner was mentally  
12 incompetent to stand trial in 2002 and 2003, or to have been able to file a habeas  
13 action in the years after his conviction. (Docket # 39 at 5-15; # 114-3 at 4-11.)

14 Petitioner also offers several declarations and other statements from  
15 various people familiar with Petitioner at the time of trial. One individual  
16 described Petitioner as "quirky." An appellate lawyer who represented Petitioner  
17 for a time after conviction claims that two other lawyers who handled  
18 Petitioner's case before trial had questions about Petitioner's mental status.  
19 Neither lawyer provided details about their observations, although one of the  
20 lawyers stated that Petitioner was "not 1368" – that is, incompetent enough for  
21 an attorney to declare a doubt about competence.

22 Moreover, Petitioner apparently took some medication for his thyroid  
23 condition while in pretrial custody. (Docket # 41 at 34.) The impact of this  
24 medication on Petitioner's mental processes – and whether its effect was  
25 apparent to others – is not established in the record. To that end, a pretrial report  
26 from the county probation office observed that Petitioner may have had some  
27 kind of mental illness. That report offered no further diagnosis, details, or  
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1 assessment of Petitioner's condition. It also is not clear whether this observation  
2 was shared with the trial judge or Petitioner's lawyer. (Id. at 31.)

3 However, what is clear is that no issues involving Petitioner's mental  
4 health or competency became the subject of extensive discussion during his trial  
5 or on direct appeal. Neither Petitioner's defense lawyer nor any of the judges  
6 before whom Petitioner appeared ever "declared a doubt" under state law about  
7 his mental status. There was no statement in the transcripts from any of the  
8 superior court judges who handled trial or pretrial proceedings that reflected any  
9 concern about Petitioner's ability to participate in his defense. To the contrary,  
10 the judges were able to conclude that Petitioner knowingly and intelligently  
11 understood his rights and voluntarily waived them appropriately at various stages  
12 of the proceeding. (2RT at B-3, D-3-7, E-4; 3RT at 408.)

13 Other aspects of the proceedings further demonstrated that Petitioner was  
14 not impaired by any psychiatric problem. Petitioner was gainfully employed at  
15 the time of his arrest. On that basis, Petitioner's lawyer asked that Petitioner be  
16 released from custody because he was "the sole earner of his household."<sup>4</sup> (2RT  
17 at C-2.) Similarly, at the time of sentencing, Petitioner's brother described  
18 Petitioner as "a responsible person, he's a hard-working person, a family man."  
19 (3RT at 412.) Neither the brother nor any other family member raised any  
20 concern about Petitioner's mental health during the trial.

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<sup>4</sup> The record reveals some confusion regarding Petitioner's custody  
23 status during the proceedings. The trial court set bail at various amounts ranging  
24 between \$35,000 and \$1 million based on the nature of the pending charges.  
25 Petitioner does not appear to have been able to satisfy those terms; the docket  
26 regularly identifies his custody status as "remanded." (CT at 21, 56, 62, 66.)  
27 Yet, at one stage, the trial judge "ordered [Petitioner] back" to court for a bail  
28 hearing and instructed Petitioner not to have any contact with the victim in the  
case, which suggests that he was at liberty. (2RT at D-7.) Additionally,  
Petitioner's trial lawyer stated in his declaration that Petitioner "managed to bail  
out of custody before the trial" and met the lawyer at his office. (Lodgment # 7.)

1 Petitioner's conduct during trial also did not appear to raise concerns about  
2 his mental status. During trial, Petitioner testified coherently in his defense to  
3 establish an alibi to the shooting. (3RT at 191-243.) That testimony was subject  
4 to extensive cross-examination from the prosecution. The trial transcript reveals  
5 that Petitioner was able to cogently respond to those adverse questions. And,  
6 according to Petitioner's attorney, Petitioner identified a witness who eventually  
7 testified at trial to support Petitioner's alibi. Both Petitioner and his alibi witness  
8 gave statements that were logical, understandable, and reasonably consistent  
9 with each other.<sup>5</sup>

10 The parties obtained a declaration from Petitioner's trial lawyer in the  
11 course of the federal habeas proceedings that explained his subjective  
12 recollection of the client. (Docket # 101-6.) The trial lawyer found Petitioner's  
13 current allegations of severe mental health problems and incompetency to be  
14 "astounding, because [ ] in all the time I represented Mr. Alvarez, I never  
15 noticed, nor did any member of his family tell me, that he was mentally ill." The  
16 trial lawyer described Petitioner as "always calm and in control of himself. Our  
17 conversations were always rational. He never said anything wild or crazy or  
18 delusional. His answers to my questions were always appropriate."

19 The trial lawyer further concluded that Petitioner "clearly understood the  
20 charges against him" and actively participated in his own defense. The lawyer  
21 explained that he did not request a competency hearing or pursue an insanity  
22 defense because of "what was obvious to me at the time, that my client was a

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25 <sup>5</sup> That said, the prosecutor refuted Petitioner's alibi defense during an  
26 effective closing argument. Even though the alibi was "corroborated," the jury  
27 was certainly entitled to conclude that Petitioner and his buddy colluded on an  
improbable story to avoid culpability for the shooting.

1 sane and normal man who understood the charges against him and aided me in  
 2 the conduct of his defense.”<sup>6</sup> (Id.)

3 The defense lawyer certainly was aware of the existence of Petitioner’s  
 4 thyroid condition. During Petitioner’s testimony, the lawyer elicited from  
 5 Petitioner the fact that he suffered from “a nervous and a heart condition” based  
 6 on his hyperthyroidism. Petitioner explained that this gave him insomnia and  
 7 caused him to feel nervous and hyperactive. (2RT at 45; 3RT at 196, 383.) The  
 8 lawyer apparently drew attention to Petitioner’s medical condition to explain his  
 9 physical behavior in the courtroom during trial.

10 Further, although there are some medical records demonstrating treatment  
 11 for Petitioner’s thyroid condition before trial, there are no records of any mental  
 12 health treatment or hospitalization at any point before the commission of the  
 13 crime.<sup>7</sup>

14 **Relevant Law**

15 **Mental Competency**

16 The trial of an incompetent defendant violates the Constitution’s  
 17 Due Process Clause. Droe v. Missouri, 420 U.S. 162, 171 (1975). The federal  
 18 constitutional standard for competence to stand trial is whether the defendant has  
 19 “sufficient present ability to consult with his lawyer with a reasonable degree of

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20       <sup>6</sup> The Court takes notice that Petitioner’s former lawyer was the  
 21 subject of state bar disciplinary proceedings. (Docket # 113 at 21.) Issues  
 22 regarding the credibility of the lawyer were presented to – and apparently  
 23 rejected by – the state supreme court in previous proceedings. Further, the Court  
 24 has no basis to conclude that the lawyer demonstrated an inadequate “loyalty to  
 25 his former client” (id.) by providing the Attorney General with a declaration in  
 26 this action. See, e.g., Lambright v. Ryan, 698 F.3d 808, 818 (9th Cir. 2012)  
 27 (prisoner “impliedly waive[d] his attorney-client privilege” – and obligations of  
 28 loyalty? – “the moment he file[d] a habeas petition alleging ineffective assistance  
 of counsel”).

7 One exception – as a teenager, Petitioner reported that he threw  
 himself out of a car after an argument in an attempt at suicide. (Docket # 39  
 at 7.) There was no report of any mental health follow up regarding this.

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1 rational understanding,” and whether he has “a rational as well as factual  
2 understanding of the proceedings against him.” Dusky v. United States,  
3 362 U.S. 402, 402 (1960) (per curiam).

4 When a trial court possesses evidence that “raises a ‘bona fide doubt’” as  
5 to a defendant’s competence to stand trial, the judge must conduct a competency  
6 hearing. Pate v. Robinson, 383 U.S. 375, 385 (1966). A “bona fide doubt”  
7 exists when “a reasonable judge, situated as was the trial court judge whose  
8 failure to conduct an evidentiary hearing is being reviewed, should have  
9 experienced a doubt with respect to competency to stand trial.” Maxwell v. Roe,  
10 606 F.3d 561, 568 (9th Cir. 2010) (quoting de Kaplany v. Enomoto, 540 F.2d  
11 975, 983 (9th Cir. 1976) (en banc)).

12 Factors for a court to consider in determining whether there is a bona fide  
13 doubt about a defendant’s competence include “evidence of a defendant’s  
14 irrational behavior, his demeanor at trial, and any prior medical opinion on  
15 competence to stand trial.” Id. A trial court should also consider the opinion of  
16 a defendant’s trial lawyer, as that lawyer “is in the best position to evaluate a  
17 client’s comprehension of the proceedings.” Stanley v. Cullen, 633 F.3d 852,  
18 861 (9th Cir. 2011) (quotation omitted). A court should also evaluate its own  
19 interactions with the defendant, including whether “the defendant is alert,” able  
20 to testify coherently, and participating in colloquies with the court. United States  
21 v. Lewis, 991 F.2d 524, 528 (9th Cir. 1993).

22 In evaluating a competency claim, a reviewing court “may consider facts  
23 and evidence that were not available to the state court” during trial. Williams v.  
24 Woodford, 384 F.3d 567, 607 (9th Cir. 2004). However, retrospective  
25 determinations of incompetence are generally disfavored. Boyde v. Brown, 404  
26 F.3d 1159, 1167 (9th Cir. 2004). A reviewing court may properly “accord

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1 substantial weight" to contemporaneous assessments of a defendant's mental  
2 state. Williams, 384 F.3d at 609.

3 **Ineffective Assistance of Counsel**

4 To establish ineffective assistance (i.e., that a lawyer was not competent)  
5 under Strickland v. Washington, 466 U.S. 668 (1984), "a defendant must show  
6 both deficient performance by counsel and prejudice." Knowles v. Mirzayance,  
7 556 U.S. 111, 112 (2009). A trial lawyer is "strongly presumed to have rendered  
8 adequate assistance," and should not have a reviewing court "second-guess  
9 counsel's assistance." Cullen v. Pinholster, 563 U.S. 170, 189 (2011).

10 An attorney's failure to move for a competency hearing amounts to  
11 ineffective assistance when "there are sufficient indicia of incompetence to give  
12 objectively reasonable counsel reason to doubt the defendant's competency, and  
13 there is a reasonable probability that the defendant would have been found  
14 incompetent to stand trial had the issue been raised and fully considered."  
15 Stanley, 633 F.3d at 862.

16 The failure of an attorney to raise a meritless claim or take a futile action  
17 fails both Strickland prongs. Gonzalez v. Knowles, 515 F.3d 1006, 1017 (9th  
18 Cir. 2008) ("counsel cannot be deemed ineffective for failing to raise [a]  
19 meritless claim"); Jones v. Ryan, 691 F.3d 1093, 1101 (9th Cir. 2012) ("It should  
20 be obvious that the failure of an attorney to raise a meritless claim is not  
21 prejudicial."); Rupe v. Wood, 93 F.3d 1434, 1445 (9th Cir. 1996) (an attorney's  
22 "failure to take a futile action can never be deficient performance").

23 "Surmounting Strickland's high bar is never an easy task." Padilla v.  
24 Kentucky, 559 U.S. 356, 371 (2010). Establishing that a state court's application  
25 of Strickland was unreasonable under AEDPA "is all the more difficult."  
26 Richter, 562 U.S. at 105. The standards created by Strickland and Section

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1 2254(d) are both “highly deferential”; when the two apply in tandem, “review is  
2 doubly so.” Id. (quotation omitted).

3 **Analysis**

4 The state supreme court denied Petitioner’s claims regarding his mental  
5 competency without comment on habeas review. As noted above, AEDPA  
6 requires this Court to review the reasonableness of that decision based on an  
7 independent review of the record. That review is deferential and broad – it  
8 requires the Court to consider reasons that “could have supported the state  
9 court’s decision.” Richter, 562 U.S. at 102. As for Petitioner’s IAC claims, that  
10 review becomes doubly-deferential; the federal court defers to the silent state  
11 court decision, which itself must have avoided “second guessing” a trial lawyer’s  
12 actions. Id. at 105.

13 The Court independently concludes that the state court did not  
14 unreasonably apply clearly established federal law when it denied relief on  
15 Petitioner’s claims. The state supreme court could fairly have concluded that  
16 there was an insufficient basis to doubt that Petitioner actually suffered from a  
17 serious mental health condition at the time of trial. On that basis, the state  
18 supreme court did not act unreasonably under Droepe, Pate, Dusky, or Strickland.  
19 The Court concludes that Petitioner is not entitled to habeas relief.

20 The Court’s independent review of the pretrial and trial transcripts  
21 strongly refutes any conclusion that Petitioner suffered from a latent or patent  
22 mental health problem at the time of trial. Directly put, there were no clear  
23 red flags that warranted inquiry into Petitioner’s mental competency to stand  
24 trial.

25 In his dealings with the trial judge and his lawyer, Petitioner gave no  
26 indication of having any psychiatric problem that should have raised a concern  
27 about his ability to consult with his lawyer or understand the proceedings against  
28

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#:4249

1 him. Dusky, 362 U.S. at 402. Petitioner's lawyer and family attested to the fact  
2 that he was gainfully employed and able to function in society at the time of trial.  
3 Also, Petitioner had not been treated for any mental illness, nor had he been  
4 hospitalized or treated for competency matters in an earlier criminal case.  
5 Maxwell, 606 F.3d at 568. Moreover, nothing in the trial transcripts suggests  
6 that Petitioner's in-court behavior warranted more inquiry from any of the judges  
7 involved in the case.

8 Further, Petitioner's involvement in his defense at trial could clearly have  
9 convinced the state supreme court that no reasonable trial judge would have  
10 pursued competency proceedings. Petitioner testified rationally – and certainly  
11 not delusionally, as any layperson would observe – in establishing his alibi for  
12 the time of the shooting. And that testimony was corroborated by another  
13 witness who came to court and testified consistently with Petitioner's account of  
14 the evening. According to Petitioner's lawyer, it was Petitioner who laid out the  
15 course of the defense case and identified the corroborating witness for the lawyer  
16 to subpoena for trial. By lining up a witness to back up his I-wasn't-there-and-I-  
17 didn't-do-it defense, Petitioner obviously did not wish to assert any type of  
18 insanity defense.

19 To that end, the trial lawyer subjectively found it "astounding" that  
20 Petitioner later developed such severe mental health problems. The lawyer did  
21 not believe that Petitioner was incompetent or had any problems that warranted  
22 further inquiry. The state supreme court could reasonably have concluded that  
23 the trial judge did not possess evidence that "raise[d] a 'bona fide doubt'" about  
24 Petitioner's competence. Pate, 383 U.S. at 385. The state court certainly did not  
25 have any complaint from Petitioner's lawyer regarding his opinion of his client's  
26 capacity to participate in the trial. Stanley, 633 F.3d at 861.

27

28

1       On the other side of the scale, Petitioner credibly established that his  
2 condition deteriorated after conviction and during his time in state prison. The  
3 Court is mindful of the forensic opinion of Dr. Lavid that Petitioner may have  
4 suffered from severe mental problems at the time of trial. But the proof that the  
5 trial judge or a reasonably professional defense lawyer should have been on  
6 notice of Petitioner's internal difficulties is awfully thin. Looking back more  
7 than a decade after the trial, Petitioner points to snippets of observations from  
8 various individuals, medical records that describe his thyroid medications, and a  
9 passing reference in a probation report; these facts do not weigh heavily in favor  
10 of a finding that Petitioner was mentally incompetent at the time of trial, and that  
11 a reasonable judge or lawyer should have seen this. Williams, 384 F.3d at 608.

12       The state supreme court could reasonably have concluded that the trial  
13 court did not err in declining to sua sponte conduct competency proceedings  
14 during Petitioner's trial. Droe, 420 U.S. at 171; Pate, 383 U.S. at 385; Dusky,  
15 362 U.S. at 402. From this, the state court could also have concluded that a  
16 reasonable attorney would not have been required to spend time investigating  
17 Petitioner's non-apparent mental health status at the time of trial. Strickland,  
18 466 U.S. at 687; Stanley, 633 F.3d at 862. There was also no basis for  
19 Petitioner's lawyer to pursue an insanity defense on the shooting charges.

20       Given the minimal proof regarding Petitioner's condition at trial – and the  
21 overwhelming proof that he possessed the ability and intelligence to participate  
22 meaningfully in his defense – the Court discerns no constitutional error that  
23 constituted an “extreme malfunction” in the state criminal justice system in  
24 Petitioner's case. Id. at 102. Habeas relief is not warranted.

25       **Remaining Claims**

26       Petitioner's remaining constitutional claims also cannot lead to habeas  
27 relief.

28

***Ineffective Assistance Based on Plea Offer.*** Petitioner claims his lawyer inadequately represented him in plea negotiations. Petitioner acknowledges that his lawyer advised him to plead to a charge that would result in a significantly shorter sentence (eight years instead of life in prison). However, Petitioner contends that he did not understand the terms of the deal or the immigration consequences of it at the time of trial. (Docket # 41 at 39-41; # 113 at 23-24.)

Petitioner’s claim is too tenuous to lead to relief. The trial judge discussed the offer with Petitioner at a pretrial hearing; the transcript reveals that Petitioner understood the sentence he faced if he went to trial. (2RT at E4.) Further, as explained above, there is no basis to conclude that Petitioner’s lawyer was ineffective in failing to diagnose Petitioner’s potential mental health problems before trial. Finally, there is no proof that any aspect of Petitioner’s immigration status had any impact on his decision to reject the plea offer. Petitioner’s unsupported claim is insufficient to overcome the “formidable barrier” to habeas relief under AEDPA. Burt, 134 S. Ct. at 16.

***Instructional Error.*** Petitioner contends that the trial court violated due process by failing to give an attempted voluntary manslaughter instruction based on heat of passion. (Docket # 41 at 46-50; # 113 at 26-27.) He also raises a derivative claim that his lawyer was ineffective for failing to request the instruction. (Docket # 41 at 41-44.)

The Court summarily rejects both claims. The state appellate court rejected Petitioner's claims in a single paragraph on direct appeal. The appellate court concluded that a heat of passion instruction was not justified under state law. According to the appellate decision, there was "no evidence that defendant ever felt provoked at all, much less to the point of homicidal rage," and that a manslaughter / passion theory was "sheer speculation." 2003 WL 22977564

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1 at \*1. That conclusion is supported by the trial record and was reasonable under  
2 the relevant federal authority. Lewis v. Jeffers, 497 U.S. 764, 780 (1990) (a  
3 federal habeas court does not review jury instructions to determine whether they  
4 violate state law, as federal habeas relief “does not lie for errors of state law.”);  
5 Clark v. Brown, 450 F.3d 898, 904-05 (9th Cir. 2006) (the failure to instruct on a  
6 particular defense theory is not error unless “the theory is legally sound and  
7 evidence in the case makes it applicable.”) (citation omitted); Gonzalez, 515 F.3d  
8 at 1017 (“counsel cannot be deemed ineffective for failing to raise [a] meritless  
9 claim”).

10 The jury instruction claim is also wildly inconsistent with Petitioner’s own  
11 testimony at trial – Petitioner’s defense was “I didn’t shoot the victim,” not “I  
12 shot him because I was enraged when I found out that he had an affair with my  
13 wife.” Petitioner cannot demonstrate constitutional error based on the lawyer’s  
14 failure to request a jury instruction that would have directly undermined his own  
15 trial testimony.

16 ***Ineffective Assistance of Appellate Counsel.*** Petitioner contends  
17 that his appellate attorneys were ineffective by failing to file a reply brief on  
18 direct appeal or a petition for review with the state supreme court, and for failing  
19 to investigate or raise his mental incompetency claims. (Docket # 41 at 51-52;  
20 # 113 at 29.)

21 Ineffective assistance by an appellate lawyer is measured by the same  
22 Strickland criteria. Turner v. Calderon, 281 F.3d 851, 872 (9th Cir. 2002). An  
23 appellate attorney is not required to raise “every colorable” or “nonfrivolous  
24 issue” on appeal. Jones v. Barnes, 463 U.S. 745, 750-52 (1983). Rather, the  
25 “weeding out of weaker issues is widely recognized as one of the hallmarks of  
26 effective appellate advocacy.” Miller v. Keeney, 882 F.2d 1428, 1434 (9th Cir.  
27 1989).  
28

1 Petitioner fails to establish prejudice under Strickland. It is unclear why  
2 Petitioner's appellate lawyers failed to file a reply brief or a petition for review.  
3 However, Petitioner offers no non-speculative basis to conclude that he would  
4 have received affirmative relief on direct appeal had the lawyers filed either  
5 document in furtherance of his case. Moreover, as explained above, Petitioner's  
6 appellate lawyers could reasonably have concluded that issues regarding his  
7 mental health condition at the time of trial were unlikely to lead to relief on  
8 direct appeal. The state supreme court did not act unreasonably in denying these  
9 derivative claims on habeas review. Jones, 463 U.S. at 750-52; Richter, 562 U.S.  
10 at 98, 102.

11 ***Cruel and Unusual Punishment.*** Petitioner contends that his  
12 sentence of life plus 25 years to life violates the Eighth Amendment prohibition  
13 against cruel and unusual punishment. This claim is essentially based on two  
14 premises: that California sometimes sentences murderers (as opposed to  
15 attempted murderers) to lesser terms, and that Petitioner's sentence is  
16 disproportionate to the way the prosecution originally charged the case. (Docket  
17 # 41 at 54-56; # 113 at 30.)

18 However, neither theory forms the basis for a claim of constitutional error.  
19 Petitioner fails to offer an adequate presentation that demonstrates that his  
20 sentence was "grossly disproportionate" to the severity of his crimes. Graham v.  
21 Florida, 560 U.S. 48, 59-60 (2010). To the contrary, the state supreme court  
22 could well have concluded that the cold-blooded ambush of a defenseless person  
23 in the middle of the night that led to serious gunshot wounds would warrant a  
24 significant prison sentence. Moreover, Petitioner points to any Supreme Court  
25 decision that clearly establishes a right to constitutional relief based on a change  
26  
27  
28

1 in a prosecutor's charging decision. Petitioner's Eighth Amendment challenge  
2 cannot lead to habeas relief.

3       ***Cumulative Error.*** Petitioner argues that the cumulative effect of the  
4 errors he alleges violated his constitutional rights. (Docket # 41 at 53-54; # 113  
5 at 29-30.) The "combined effect" of multiple errors may give rise to a due  
6 process violation if the errors rendered a trial "fundamentally unfair" and  
7 "infected the trial with unfairness," even if each error considered individually  
8 would not require reversal. Parle v. Runnels, 505 F.3d 922, 927 (9th Cir. 2007)  
9 (citing Chambers v. Mississippi, 410 U.S. 284 (1973), and Montana v. Egelhoff,  
10 518 U.S. 37, 53 (1996)). But, when there is no single constitutional error, there  
11 is "nothing to accumulate to a level of a constitutional violation." Mancuso v.  
12 Olivarez, 292 F.3d 939, 957 (9th Cir. 2002). The Court finds that none of  
13 Petitioner's claims amount to constitutional error. Since none of Petitioner's  
14 separate arguments is meritorious, his cumulative error claim also fails.

15       **CONCLUSION**

16       IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that the District Judge issue an  
17 order: (1) accepting the findings and recommendations in this Report;  
18 (2) directing that judgment be entered denying the Petition; and (3) dismissing  
19 the action with prejudice.

20  
21       Dated: January 23, 2017



22  
23       HON. MICHAEL R. WILNER  
24       UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
25  
26  
27  
28

# **PETITIONER'S APPENDIX 5**

S219891

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF CALIFORNIA** SUPREME COURT  
FILED

**En Banc**

APR 13 2016

In re JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ on Habeas Corpus. Frank A. McQuire Clerk

Deputy

The petition for writ of habeas corpus is denied on the merits. (See *Harrington v. Richter* (2011) 562 U.S. 82, 100-101, citing *Ylst v. Nunnemaker* (1991) 501 U.S. 797, 803.)

**CANTIL-SAKAUYE**

*Chief Justice*

# **PETITIONER'S APPENDIX 6**

Case 2:12-cv-07494-RGK-MRW Document 104-2 Filed 07/29/16 Page 1 of 1 Page ID  
#:2052

CV 12-7494-RGK (MRW)  
Lodgment # 9

**ORIGINAL**

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
SECOND APPELLATE DISTRICT  
DIVISION ONE

In re

B255464

JUAN BASCO ALVAREZ

(L.A.S.C. No. BA232567)

on

(TERRY A. BORK, Judge)

Habeas Corpus.

ORDER

COURT OF APPEAL - SECOND DIST.  
**FILED**

JUN 27 2014

JOSEPH A. LANE

Clerk

Deputy Clerk

THE COURT\*:

The petition for writ of habeas corpus, filed April 10, 2014, has been read and considered.

The petition is denied.

Rothschild  
\*ROTHSCHILD, Acting P. J.

Chaney  
CHANAY, J.

Johnson  
JOHNSON, J.

Exhibit 42 - 1362

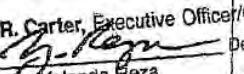
# **PETITIONER'S APPENDIX 7**

CV 12-7494-RGK (MRW)  
Lodgment # 8

1  
2 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
3 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

4 CONFORMED COPY  
5 ORIGINAL FILED  
6 Superior Court of California  
7 County of Los Angeles

8 MAR 12 2014

9 Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk  
10 By:  Deputy  
11 Yolanda Reza

12 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA ) Case No. BA 232567

13 Plaintiff and Respondent, ) ORDER SUMMARILY DENYING  
14 versus ) PETITION FOR WRIT  
15 JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, ) OF  
16 Defendant and Petitioner, ) HABEAS CORPUS  
17 )  
18 )  
19 )  
20 )  
21 )  
22 )  
23 )  
24 )  
25 )

IN CHAMBERS

Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus by Juan Bosco Alvarez ("Petitioner") is Denied.

The Court has read and considered the unredacted Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus filed by the Petitioner on September 19, 2013, along with the unredacted Exhibits in Support of the Petition. The Court has further read and considered Respondent's Informal Response To Petition For Writ Of Habeas Corpus, along with the Petitioner's Informal Reply. The Court finds that the following apply:

Petitioner has failed to explain and justify the significant delay in seeking habeas relief. *In re Clark*, (1993) 5 Cal.4<sup>th</sup> 750, 765; *In re Swain* (1949) 34 Cal. 2<sup>nd</sup> 300, 302.

The petition raises issues which could have been raised on appeal, but were not, and Petitioner has failed to allege facts establishing an exception to the rule barring habeas consideration of claims that could have been raised on appeal. *In re Reno* (2012) 55 Cal. 4<sup>th</sup> 428, 490-93; *In re Harris*, (1993) 5 Cal.4<sup>th</sup> 813, 825-26; *In re Dixon*, (1953) 41 Cal. 2<sup>nd</sup> 755, 759; *In re Smith* (1911) 161 Cal. 208.

The petition raises issues which were raised and rejected on appeal and Petitioner has failed to allege facts establishing an exception to the rule barring habeas consideration of claims

Case 2:12-cv-07494-RGK-MRW Document 104-1 Filed 07/29/16 Page 2 of 2 Page ID  
#:2051

that were been raised on appeal. *In re Reno* (2012) 55 Cal. 4<sup>th</sup> 428, 478-79; *In re Harris*, (1993) 5 Cal.4<sup>th</sup> 813, 825-26 (1993); *In re Waltreus*, (1965) 62 Cal. 2<sup>nd</sup> 218, 225.

The petition presents claims raised and rejected in a prior habeas petition and Petitioner has not alleged facts establishing an exception to the rule barring reconsideration of claims previously rejected. Such successive claims constitute an abuse of the writ of habeas corpus. *In re Reno* (2012) 55 Cal. 4<sup>th</sup> 428, 455; *In re Martinez* (2009) 46 cal. 4<sup>th</sup> 945, 956; *In re Clark*, (1993) 5 Cal.4<sup>th</sup> 750, 767-68; *In re Miller* (1941) 17 Cal. 2<sup>nd</sup> 734, 735.

Petitioner filed a prior petition for habeas relief and failed to raise the claims raised in the current petition, and Petitioner has not alleged facts establishing an exception to the rule requiring all claims to be raised in one timely filed petition. *In re Reno* (2012) 55 Cal. 4<sup>th</sup> 428, 454; *In re Clark*, (1993) 5 Cal.4<sup>th</sup> 750, 767-68; *In re Horowitz* (1949) 33 Cal. 2<sup>nd</sup> 534, 546-47.

As to the claim of ineffective assistance of appellate counsel during Petitioner's first appeal of right, Petitioner has failed to show that appellate counsel's exercise of professional judgment was deficient or that, but for counsel's errors, the outcome of the appeal would have been different. *Smith v. Robbins* (2000) 528 U. S. 259, 288; *Jones v Barnes* (1983) 463 U. S. 745, 750-52.

For all of the foregoing indicated reasons, the petition is DENIED.

The Clerk is ordered to serve a copy of this memorandum upon the Petitioner through his counsel, Lauren Collins, Deputy Federal Public Defender, 321 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, and upon the Respondent, Deputy District Attorney Hyman Sisman (Habeas Corpus Litigation Team), 320 West Temple Street, Suite 540, Los Angeles, California 90012.

Dated: March 12, 2014

Terry A. Bork

**TERRY A. BORK**  
Judge of the Superior Court



# **PETITIONER'S APPENDIX 8**

CV 12-7494-RGK (MRW  
Lodgement #5

CRIM.  
No. B164193  
(Super.Ct.No. BA 232567)

**COURT OF APPEAL**  
SECOND APPELLATE DISTRICT  
Division One

THE PEOPLE

VS.

JUAN B. ALVAREZ

CLERK OF THE SECOND DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIF.  
LOS ANGELES  
BY:

2013 FEB 22 PM 2:19

JUDGED

**O P I N I O N**

COURT OF APPEAL, SECOND DIST.  
**FILED**

DEC 19 2003

JOSEPH A. LANE Clerk

Deputy Clerk

00 41852

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE OFFICIAL REPORTS

California Rules of Court, rule 977(a), prohibits courts and parties from citing or relying on opinions not certified for publication or ordered published, except as specified by rule 977(b). This opinion has not been certified for publication or ordered published for purposes of rule 977.

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SECOND APPELLATE DISTRICT

DIVISION ONE

THE PEOPLE,

Plaintiff and Respondent,

v.

JUAN B. ALVAREZ,

Defendant and Appellant.

B164193

(Los Angeles County  
Super. Ct. No. BA 232567)

COURT OF APPEAL - SECOND DIST.

FILED

DEC 19 2003

JOSEPH A. LANE

Clark

Deputy Clerk

APPEAL from a judgment of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County.

Ruth A. Kwan, Judge. Affirmed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ted T. Yamamoto and Erik W. Ward for Defendant and Appellant.

Bill Lockyer, Attorney General, Robert R. Anderson, Chief Assistant Attorney General, Pamela C. Hamanaka, Assistant Attorney General, Marc E. Turchin and David A. Wildman, Deputy Attorneys General, for Plaintiff and Respondent.

Convicted of shooting his neighbor, defendant raises two related claims. He says the trial court should have, *sua sponte*, instructed the jury on attempted voluntary manslaughter and says his lawyer failed him by neglecting to ask for the instructions. We reject both claims.

Several weeks before the shooting, the victim (Aguilar) and defendant had a conversation outside the apartment complex where both lived. Defendant had asked Aguilar if he had seen defendant's wife with anyone else. Aguilar said he had only seen her with defendant and her children. At trial, Aguilar denied having any kind of "relationship" with defendant's wife.

On June 7, 2002, just after 3:00 a.m., defendant ambushed Aguilar outside the apartment building, shooting at him several times and hitting him twice, once in the leg and once in the stomach. Defendant fled in an automobile and later led the police on a chase before he abandoned the car and tried unsuccessfully to flee on foot.

Defendant presented an alibi defense, claiming he had never had any problem with Aguilar. The jury found him guilty of assault with a firearm, evading an officer, and attempted premeditated murder. The trial court imposed a life prison sentence for the attempted murder plus a consecutive 25 years-to-life for a firearm enhancement.

Defendant's counsel properly refrained from asking and the trial court properly refrained from giving instructions on attempted voluntary manslaughter. In order to justify such instructions, the evidence must show provocation to the point "that a reasonable person in defendant's position would have reacted with homicidal rage." (*People v. Koontz* (2002) 27 Cal.4th 1041, 1086.) Defendant ambushed Aguilar either for no reason or because he had some vague notion that Aguilar might have been a little too familiar with defendant's wife. Certainly, neither would be the reaction of "a reasonable person." (See *People v. Hyde* (1985) 166 Cal.App.3d 463, 473.) Indeed, the record contains no evidence that defendant ever felt provoked at all, much less to the point of homicidal rage. A manslaughter verdict could have been constructed only from sheer speculation.

DISPOSITION

The judgment is affirmed.

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED.



ORTEGA, J.

We concur:



Spencer  
SPENCER, P.J.



Mallano  
MALLANO, J.

# **PETITIONER'S APPENDIX 9**

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

**CIVIL MINUTES - GENERAL**

Case No.	CV 12-7494 RGK (MRW)	Date	March 31, 2014
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Title	Alvarez v. Soto
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Present: The Honorable	Michael R. Wilner
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Veronica McKamie	n/a
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Deputy Clerk	Court Reporter / Recorder
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Attorneys Present for Petitioner:	Attorneys Present for Respondent:
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n/a	n/a
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**Proceedings:** (IN CHAMBERS) ORDER RE: TIMELINESS AND EQUITABLE TOLLING OF HABEAS ACTION

**INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF RULING**

This is a state habeas action. Petitioner initiated the action well after the statutory deadline for federal court consideration of his claims. Petitioner contends that his long, documented history of severe mental health conditions warrants equitable tolling of the federal limitations period.

The Court agrees. The weight of the medical and psychiatric evidence establishes that Petitioner's condition made it impossible for him to pursue habeas relief in a timely manner. That evidence reveals lengthy periods during which Petitioner's mental health issues caused him to be institutionalized in psychiatric hospitals and forcibly medicated by prison officials over the years. The Court gave close consideration to the limited progress and stability that Petitioner had in recent years. However, the extent of his treatment, the ongoing diagnoses of severe psychiatric conditions, his delusional behavior, and the compelling opinions of psychiatrists – both the consultant retained by Petitioner, and those treating Petitioner in prison in realtime – are sufficient to meet the legal test for equitable tolling. Additionally, Petitioner has been reasonably diligent under the circumstances in pursuing assistance from "jailhouse lawyers" to advance his claims.

The Court therefore finds that Petitioner's action and First Amended Petition are timely under AEDPA.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Because the Court concludes that Petitioner is entitled to equitable tolling due to his mental health conditions, the Court declines to address the parties' contentions regarding other bases for

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

**CIVIL MINUTES - GENERAL**

Case No.	CV 12-7494 RGK (MRW)	Date	March 31, 2014
Title	Alvarez v. Soto		

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

A state court jury convicted Petitioner of attempted murder and assault in 2002. The trial court sentenced Petitioner to life in state prison. After Petitioner's conviction was affirmed on appeal, he pursued no further legal challenges for nearly a decade.

Then, in July 2012, after a short flurry of unsuccessful habeas actions in state court, Petitioner filed a habeas action in this federal court. The action was untimely on its face. The Court solicited a further statement from Petitioner regarding the status of the action. From a review of Petitioner's petition and additional materials, the Court learned that Petitioner had considerable mental health issues over the years. The Court appointed counsel to assist Petitioner in establishing the timeliness of the action and potentially asserting that Petitioner was entitled to equitable tolling of the federal limitations period. (Docket # 4-6.)

That led to an extensive set of submissions from both parties regarding the history of Petitioner's psychiatric conditions while in custody.<sup>2</sup> (Docket # 40, 51, 59, 62, 75, 82.) Petitioner also sought to amend his federal petition to add additional claims. (Docket # 28, 33.) Additionally, the Attorney General filed a motion to dismiss the entire federal action as untimely under AEDPA. (Docket # 50.)

**STANDARD FOR EQUITABLE TOLLING**

Under AEDPA, state prisoners have a one-year period within which they must seek federal habeas review of their habeas claims. 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d)(1). The federal AEDPA limitations period is generally triggered when state court appellate review becomes final, or under other specific conditions set forth in the statute. 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d)(1)(A-D); Lee v. Lampert, 653 F.3d 929, 933 (9th Cir. 2011). State habeas actions commenced after the end of the one-year limitations period cannot "revive" an untimely federal petition. Gonzalez v. Thaler,

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equitable tolling (lack of access to legal materials, limited English language skills, etc.) or the claim that a different limitations accrual period applies to this action. However, as noted below, aspects of Petitioner's personal circumstances may be relevant under Ninth Circuit precedent in evaluating whether Petitioner was appropriately diligent in pursuing habeas relief.

<sup>2</sup> The Court applauds both lawyers for the superb quality and uniformly fair tone of their briefing to date. All of the parties' filings have been of significant assistance to the Court in evaluating this unique and difficult action.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

**CIVIL MINUTES - GENERAL**

Case No.	CV 12-7494 RGK (MRW)	Date	March 31, 2014
Title	Alvarez v. Soto		

\_\_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_, 132 S. Ct. 641, 653 (2012) (AEDPA clock not “reset” by untimely state habeas actions).

AEDPA’s statutory limitations period may be tolled for equitable reasons “in appropriate cases.” Holland v. Florida, 560 U.S. 631, 645 (2010). The Ninth Circuit recognizes the availability of equitable tolling of the one-year statute of limitations in situations where “extraordinary circumstances beyond a prisoner’s control make it impossible to file a petition on time.” Spitsyn v. Moore, 345 F.3d 796, 799 (9th Cir. 2003). A prisoner must establish that: (1) he has been pursuing his rights diligently; and (2) some extraordinary circumstances caused the delay. Pace, 544 U.S. at 418.

The words “extraordinary” and “impossible” suggest the limited availability of this doctrine. Indeed, equitable tolling is “unavailable in most cases.” Miles v. Prunty, 187 F.3d 1104, 1007 (9th Cir. 1999). This difficult burden ensures that the exceptions do not swallow the rule. Miranda v. Castro, 292 F.3d 1063, 1066 (9th Cir. 2002). The rare cases warranting relief generally involve extreme circumstances beyond a prisoner’s control that directly prevented the petitioner from filing.

Equitable tolling may apply due on a prisoner’s severe mental illness. Bills v. Clark, 628 F.3d 1092, 1097 (9th Cir. 2010); Laws v. Lamarque, 351 F.3d 919, 922 (9th Cir. 2003); see also Calderon v. United States, 163 F.3d 530, 541 (9th Cir. 1998) (prisoner’s mental incompetency is an extraordinary circumstance beyond his control that may warrant equitable tolling pending a competency hearing). In Bills, the Ninth Circuit established a two-part test to determine eligibility for equitable tolling due to mental impairment:

(1) First, a petitioner must show his mental impairment was an “extraordinary circumstance” beyond his control [ ] by demonstrating the impairment was so severe that either

- (a) petitioner was unable rationally or factually to personally understand the need to timely file, or
- (b) petitioner’s mental state rendered him unable personally to prepare a habeas petition and effectuate its filing.

(2) Second, the petitioner must show diligence in pursuing the claims to the extent he could understand them, but that the mental impairment made it impossible to meet the filing deadline under the totality of the circumstances, including reasonably available access

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

**CIVIL MINUTES - GENERAL**

Case No.	CV 12-7494 RGK (MRW)	Date	March 31, 2014
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to assistance.

Bills, 628 F.3d at 1100.

The Bills Court then stated what a district court must do “[i]n practice” to evaluate a claim of equitable tolling based on such an impairment. A district court must:

- (1) find the petitioner has made a non-frivolous showing that he had a severe mental impairment during the filing period that would entitle him to an evidentiary hearing; (2) determine, after considering the record, whether the petitioner satisfied his burden that he was in fact mentally impaired; (3) determine whether the petitioner’s mental impairment made it impossible to timely file on his own; and (4) consider whether the circumstances demonstrate the petitioner was otherwise diligent in attempting to comply with the filing requirements.

Id. at 1100-01.<sup>3</sup> Boiled down to basic principles, the relevant question for a court to consider is “Did the mental impairment cause an untimely filing?” in the course of habeas review. Stancle v. Clay, 682 F.3d 948, 959 (9th Cir. 2012).

**ANALYSIS**

After a candid discussion of the case at a status conference with the parties and reviewing their supplemental briefs, the Court finds it appropriate to evaluate Petitioner’s equitable tolling claim separately for the periods: (a) from the time Petitioner’s conviction became final in early 2004 through mid-2010; and (b) from mid-2010 through the initiation of this action in federal court. As to each period, the parties submitted considerable medical and psychiatric records from prison practitioners, expert evaluations, and legal analysis of the significance of those materials.

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<sup>3</sup> Because of the comprehensive nature of the parties’ submissions regarding Petitioner’s history of treatment and diagnoses and the opinions of professionals, the Court concludes that an additional evidentiary hearing would not materially assist the Court in evaluating the evidence in the record. See Local Rule 7-15.

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**Period before Mid-2010**

The parties agree that Petitioner's conviction became final in January 2004 after the conclusion of his direct appeal. Petitioner was in state prison well before that date, though. Petitioner's psychiatric problems were apparent at that time.

Petitioner's medical records indicate that he was hospitalized within the prison for psychiatric reasons on several occasions during 2003 and 2004. (Docket # 40 at 12.) During this period, prison medical staff determined that Petitioner suffered from numerous severe psychiatric conditions, likely as a result of a serious thyroid condition. The medical evidence suggests that Petitioner had a period of relative stability in 2005 and 2006. Even so, Petitioner was prescribed a considerable regimen of antipsychotic medication, was seen regularly by psychiatric staff, and suffered from delusions and other mental health symptoms. (Docket # 39 at 10-15, Ex.7.)

His condition apparently deteriorated in 2007. The deterioration culminated in a lengthy hospitalization at a psychiatric hospital from April 2007 through December 2008. The medical records for that period show that Petitioner was considerably impaired by his diagnosed psychiatric problems, including severe delusions, psychosis, lack of insight into his psychiatric condition, and lack of receptivity to medication. (Docket # 39-1 at 78-79, 39-3 at 32-35.)

As a result, Petitioner was the subject of involuntary medication proceedings. Those proceedings began in November 2007 when Petitioner began his lengthy hospitalization. Prison psychiatrists attested that involuntary administration of antipsychotic medication was warranted because of Plaintiff's diagnosis of psychotic disorder, not otherwise specified (NOS); chronic paranoia; bizarre delusions; and other affect disorders. (Docket # 39-1 at 16-17.) The staff asserted that Plaintiff posed a considerable danger to others. Notably, the prison psychiatrists opined that Petitioner was unable to understand the nature of his mental illness, did not recognize the need for continued treatment, and could not give informed consent to the medication prescribed for him. (*Id.* at 17, 24-25.) At the request of prison officials, an administrative law judge ordered that Petitioner receive medications involuntarily. The orders requiring administration of medication continued until August 2010 – considerably after Petitioner's discharge from the psychiatric hospital.

The Court concludes that Petitioner carried his burden of establishing that his mental status in the period from 2004 through the termination of the involuntary medication order in 2010 made it impossible for him to file a timely federal habeas action. The proof of Petitioner's longterm and serious mental illness during that period is compelling. Petitioner's psychiatric condition (even after the thyroid-related physical cause of his symptoms was identified and

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treated) deteriorated to such a level that Petitioner was hospitalized repeatedly and for lengthy periods of time. Further, correctional officials initiated proceedings to forcibly medicate Petitioner because of his inability to care for himself and the danger he posed to others due to his mental condition.

The Court concludes that Petitioner was mentally impaired such that it was impossible for him to file a timely habeas action in this Court during this period. Based on his circumstances – persistently delusional, forcibly medicated, and in and out of psychiatric institutions – Petitioner must fairly be excused from having to “comply with the filing requirements” under AEDPA. Bills, 628 F.3d at 1100-01.

**Period from Mid-2010 through 2012**

To the state’s credit, the Attorney General does not vigorously challenge Petitioner’s equitable tolling claim for the pre-2010 period. See, e.g., Docket 62 at 1 (evidence “suggests that (at most) [Petitioner] is entitled to equitable tolling through August 2010”).<sup>4</sup> Instead, the Attorney General argues that Petitioner’s condition improved considerably after that time. As a result, the state contends that Petitioner is unable to satisfy the Bills impossible-to-file / diligent-in-trying-to standard for the period from August 2010 until July 2012 when he commenced this action.

To that end, the Court directed the parties to submit additional briefs and evidence that focused on this later period. (Docket # 75, 82.) Petitioner also obtained a second report from a psychiatric expert, Dr. Lavid, who based his opinions on an examination of Petitioner and a review of Petitioner’s treatment records. (Docket # 39 at 5, # 75 at 33.)

The record is largely silent as to why the involuntary medication order concluded in 2010. It also does not appear that prison officials sought to hospitalize Petitioner as a result of his illness or conduct since then. However, it is clear that Petitioner continued to take a considerable course of psychiatric medications voluntarily. (Docket # 39 at 35-77.)

Additionally, the prison accommodated Petitioner’s condition by placing him in the Enhanced Outpatient Program (EOP) within his institution. According to the Attorney General, the EOP provides services for prisoners who have an “inability to function in the general prison

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<sup>4</sup> The Court declines to join the Federal Public Defender’s conclusion that the state “concedes” that Petitioner is entitled to equitable tolling for that period. (Docket # 59 at 3.)

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population." (Docket # 62 at 4.) Based on the information in the parties' submissions, the Court does not understand the EOP to function in a manner that restricts a prisoner's ability to contact the outside world (in the manner that, say, an involuntary hospitalization or incarceration in a secure housing unit likely would).

Petitioner was regularly treated by psychiatrists, psychologists, and other professionals within the prison for his mental health conditions during the 2010-2012 timeframe. In addition to medications, Petitioner participated in regular meetings and evaluations with the psychiatric staff. The Court closely reviewed their contemporaneous notes and assessments. (Docket # 39-1 at 34-77.) According to those notes, Petitioner's psychiatric diagnosis remained essentially the same – delusional disorder, psychotic disorder NOS, or mood disorder NOS.

The parties advance a real dispute regarding the severity of Petitioner's symptoms and mental condition during this period. Petitioner's attorney (based on Dr. Lavid's review of the prison staff's treatment notes) emphasizes continued observations regarding Petitioner's delusional behavior and abnormal affect. (Docket # 75 at 35-38.) By contrast, the Attorney General notes that the medical reports from 2010-2012 "vary widely," and regularly record positive, stable assessments of Petitioner's condition. (Docket # 82 at 3.) Both sides are also equally able to point to specific judicial decisions in which the facts presented either did or did not support an equitable tolling claim. (Docket # 51 at 15-16, # 59 at 9-10.)

The Court concludes that Petitioner was severely impaired by his mental illness during this period. The progress notes and mental health treatment plan documents from the prison's record show that Petitioner was generally able to maintain his personal hygiene, voluntarily take his medication, and display cognitive functions (concentration, attention, memory, etc.) within normal limits. Yet, the notes clearly reveal that Petitioner suffered from considerable psychiatric problems from mid-2010 through mid-2011 and beyond.<sup>5</sup> Those observed and reported problems include:

- September 2010 – delusions and concerns about keeping "voices 'quiet'" internally (Docket # 39-1 at 75);

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<sup>5</sup> Because Petitioner filed his federal petition in July 2012, he only needs the Court to find equitable tolling of the AEDPA limitations period through July 2011 for the action to be timely. See 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d). However, the timeliness of the First Amended Petition requires a finding that equitable tolling applied through June 2012.

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- December 2010 – flattened affect and poor insight into conditions (Id. at 70);
- March 2011 – inappropriate laughter, obsessions and delusions about release date (Id. at 68);
- May 2011 – having “weird thoughts,” delusional thought process, inappropriate affect (Id. at 63);
- August 2011 – “presented with inappropriate affect (giggling),” expressed paranoid and delusional thoughts about prison guards, “continues to exhibit [symptoms] consistent with delusional disorder” (Id. at 58);
- May 2012 – “mild deterioration” in symptoms based on increased frequency and intensity of bizarre/delusional thoughts (Id. at 44);
- July 2012 – new bizarre and delusional thought: “he believes the government owes him money because he helped the government to fight crime” (Id. at 39.)

Based on the medical evidence, the Court concludes that Petitioner’s ongoing psychiatric ailments “rendered him unable personally to prepare a habeas petition and effectuate its filing” during this period. Bills, 628 F.3d at 1100. The main difference between Petitioner’s situation in 2010-2012 and in earlier years was that he apparently agreed to take antipsychotic medication voluntarily without a court order. Even so, Petitioner continued to suffer from considerable delusions (including delusions about the status of his prison term and release date), paranoid thoughts, noticeable defects in his affect and presented behavior, and lack of full understanding of the state of his mental health. He participated in a prison program to provide additional assistance and treatment to mentally ill inmates. Some of his symptoms were not as dire or threatening as they had been in previous years, and did not warrant hospitalization or involuntary medication. However, Petitioner’s persistent problems were far from the run-of-the-mill psychological ailments that inmates typically suffer from. In Petitioner’s circumstance, his conditions were serious, sustained, and subject to lengthy and significant treatment.

Additionally, as Dr. Lavid persuasively explained in his supplemental report, Petitioner’s “stable” condition on medication still rendered him considerably impaired by his mental health conditions and suffering from continued symptoms. (Docket # 73, Lavid Report at 6.)

A prisoner with Petitioner’s delusional and bizarre thought process and other behavioral problems – magnified by his educational and English-language limitations – could not possibly have filed a lucid habeas petition with this Court within AEDPA’s time limits. What complicates this analysis is the additional overlay of the role of jailhouse lawyers in 2011 and 2012. Petitioner apparently relied on other inmates to initiate state court proceedings to reopen Petitioner’s criminal case or seek habeas relief. Importantly, Petitioner’s treatment notes in

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February 2012 acknowledge Petitioner's ability and desire to participate in the legal system – or seek assistance from others to do so. (Id. at 49.) Those notes indicate that Petitioner was “working on appealing the sentencing of his case” based on his mental illness. Petitioner told the psychiatric staff that he “was able to ask for help on his legal paperwork from other inmates.”

However, there is no basis for the Court to conclude that Petitioner personally participated in those state court filings. The psychiatric records and a declaration from one of the inmates (Docket # 5 at 13-16) establish that Petitioner was not able to understand the nature of the state habeas documents. Petitioner had limited literacy and English-language skills, was heavily medicated, and still suffering from the psychological ailments – particularly, a delusional and bizarre thought process – that made it impossible for him to file a habeas action on his own. Moreover, according to the jailhouse lawyer's declaration, Petitioner did not seek assistance on his own; “It was his Hispanic friends who informed me” about Petitioner's need for legal help and problems that another inmate caused with Petitioner's filings. (Id. at 8.)

To obtain equitable tolling of the limitations period, Petitioner must show that he was diligent “in pursuing his claims to the extent he could understand them, but that the mental impairment made it impossible to meet the filing deadline under the totality of the circumstances.” Bills, 628 F.3d at 1100. The legal and medical record shows that Petitioner was minimally aware that another inmate was acting on his behalf in some manner in state court. That shows some amount of diligence on the part of a severely mentally impaired and medicated prisoner. Beyond that, though, the Court is unable to conclude that Petitioner could have taken additional steps to meet his filing obligation on time. Petitioner satisfied the diligence component of the Pace / Bills equitable tolling test.

\* \* \*

Equitable tolling based on psychiatric problems requires a detailed, realistic analysis of a prisoner's oft-times complicated medical history. In the present action, the Court concludes that Petitioner is entitled to sufficient tolling from the time his conviction became final in 2004 until he filed this action in federal court to render the action and the First Amended Complaint timely. Petitioner's mental illness prevented him from filing for habeas relief within the statutory period. His condition may have improved marginally in recent years, and Petitioner was apparently able to obtain minimal resources (fellow inmates) to advance his claims inartfully in state court. Nevertheless, the Court finds that Petitioner's psychiatric condition made it impossible for him to file on time despite the diligence he demonstrated under the circumstances.

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**CONCLUSION**

The Court concludes that Petitioner is entitled to equitable tolling. The Attorney General's motion to dismiss the action as untimely (Docket # 50) is denied without prejudice.

The Court is aware that Petitioner is in the midst of further state proceedings to obtain habeas relief or exhaust the claims for which he wants consideration in his First Amended Petition. (Docket # 66, 81.) Petitioner suggests that he will seek a Rhines stay of this action until the conclusion of the state proceedings. (Docket # 59 at 12.) In light of the ruling regarding equitable tolling, the Court requests that the parties informally meet to determine whether the Attorney General will stipulate to (or agree not to oppose) such a stay request in this Court. If the parties cannot reach such an agreement, Petitioner will file his stay request by or before April 21, 2014.

# **PETITIONER'S APPENDIX 10**

## EXHIBIT COVER PAGE

B

EXHIBIT

Description of Exhibit: *MENTAL HEALTH RECORD*  
*SUPERIOR COURT*

Number of pages to this Exhibit: 5 pages.

JURISDICTION: ( Check only one)

Municipal Court

Superior Court

Appellate Court

State Supreme Court

United States District Court

State Circuit Court

United States Supreme Court

Grand jury

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#:1327

1 PERSONAL HISTORY:

2 SOURCES OF INFORMATION (this page)  
3 PRE-TRIAL RECORDS

4 SUBSTANCE ABUSE:

5  No record, indication, or admission of alcohol or controlled substance abuse.  
6  Occasional social or experimental use of \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledged.  
7  See below: Indication / admission of significant substance abuse problem.

8 Referred to Narcotic Evaluator  Yes  No  Narcotic Evaluator's report attached

9 Additional Information

10 ACCORDING TO PRE-TRIAL RECORDS, THE DEFENDANT STATES  
11 NO ALCOHOL OR DRUG USE.

12 PHYSICAL / MENTAL / EMOTIONAL HEALTH:

13  No indication or claim of significant physical / mental / emotional health problem.  
14  See below: Indication / claim of significant physical / mental / emotional health problem.

15 Additional Information

16 ACCORDING TO PRE-TRIAL RECORDS, THE DEFENDANT'S  
17 MOTHER REPORTS THAT THE DEFENDANT IS UNDER A DOCTOR'S CARE AND TAKES  
18 MEDICATION FOR THYROID PROBLEMS.

19 -6- (ALVAREZ)

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#:1328

## 1 PERSONAL HISTORY:

2 SOURCES OF INFORMATION (this page)  
3 DEFENDANT

## 4 SUBSTANCE ABUSE:

5  No record, indication, or admission of alcohol or controlled substance abuse.  
6  Occasional social or experimental use of \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledged.  
7  See below: Indication / admission of significant substance abuse problem.

8 Referred to Narcotic Evaluator  Yes  No  Narcotic Evaluator's report attached

## 9 Additional Information

## 10 PHYSICAL / MENTAL / EMOTIONAL HEALTH:

11  No indication or claim of significant physical / mental / emotional health problem.  
12  See below: Indication / claim of significant physical / mental / emotional health problem.

## 13 Additional Information

14 THE DEFENDANT CAN NOT HOLD STILL. HE HAS A HYPER TYROID  
15 CONDITION THAT CAUSES HIM TO JERK AND FIDGET CONSTANTLY. HE GIVES  
16 THE IMPRESSION OF BEING ON A DRUG. HE SAYS HE DOES NOT TAKE DRUGS  
17 ILLEGALLY, BUT HE TAKES PRESCRIBED MEDICATION FOR HIS CONDITION. IT  
18 DOES NOT ALWAYS HELP.  
19 -8- (ALVAREZ)

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#:1329

1 DEFENDANT'S STATEMENT:

2 THE PROBATION OFFICER, DUE TO TIME CONSTRAINTS, WAS  
3 UNABLE TO ARRANGE AN INTERVIEW WITH THE DEFENDANT PRIOR TO THE  
4 SUBMISSION OF THE COURT REPORT. HOWEVER, INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM  
5 PRE-TRIAL RECORDS WAS INCORPORATED IN THE REPORT.

6 INTERESTED PARTIES:

7 THE PROBATION OFFICER ATTEMPTED CONTACT WITH THE  
8 INVESTIGATING OFFICERS, OFFICER MITCHELL AND OFFICER JONES OF THE  
9 CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL/EAST LOS ANGELES DIVISION WITHOUT SUCCESS.  
10 A MESSAGE WAS LEFT FOR THE OFFICERS TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE  
11 PROBATION OFFICER. HOWEVER, THERE HAD BEEN NO RESPONSE FROM THE  
12 OFFICERS PRIOR TO SUBMISSION OF THE COURT REPORT.

13 EVALUATION:

14 THE DEFENDANT IS 30 YEARS OLD WITH A MINIMAL ARREST  
15 HISTORY. HOWEVER, THE ALLEGATIONS OF ATTEMPTED MURDER IN ANOTHER  
16 CASE, WHICH IS STILL AT THE INVESTIGATING LEVEL, WARRANTS CONCERN.  
17 THE INSTANT ARREST IN AND OF ITSELF WARRANTS CONCERN FOR THE SAFETY  
18 OF THE COMMUNITY AS THE DEFENDANT BLATANTLY EVADES POLICE OFFICERS  
19 AND JUMPS OUT OF A MOVING VEHICLE WHICH ROLLS INTO A FENCE. IT  
20 SHOULD BE IMPRESSED UPON THE DEFENDANT, AT THIS JUNCTURE, THAT THIS  
21 TYPE OF BEHAVIOR IS UNACCEPTABLE. FORTUNATELY NO ONE WAS INJURED  
22 SERIOUSLY IN THIS EPISODE.

23 IN LIGHT OF THE FOREGOING, THE FOLLOWING

-11- (ALVAREZ)

300828 - Prob.5A-2 1/92 TRN.SYS(06/2000)

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1 EVALUATION:

2 HE HAS SOME MENTAL DEFICIENCY THAT NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED IN A CLOSED  
3 SETTING. IF CONVICTED, HE SHOULD NOT BY ANY STRETCH OF THE  
4 IMAGINATION BE CONSIDERED AS SUITABLE FOR PROBATION.

5  
6  
7  
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11  
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16  
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23  
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25  
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27  
28

-12- (ALVAREZ)

- 25 -

# **PETITIONER'S APPENDIX 11**

1 (PAUSE IN THE PROCEEDINGS.)  
2

3 THE COURT: MR. MONTANEZ, WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE  
4 AN OPENING STATEMENT OR RESERVE IT?

5 MR. MONTANEZ: I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE ONE.  
6

7 OPENING STATEMENT  
8 BY MR. MONTANEZ:

9 GOOD MORNING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

10 MR. ALVAREZ AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU  
11 VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION IN THIS MATTER.

12 AS THE COURT HAS ALREADY TOLD YOU, OPENING  
13 STATEMENT IS NOT EVIDENCE. IT IS JUST THE ATTORNEYS'  
14 INTERPRETATION OF WHAT THEY BELIEVE THE EVIDENCE WILL  
15 SHOW.

16 AND THE EVIDENCE WILL SHOW YOU THAT  
17 MR. ALVAREZ HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS SHOOTING.

18 MR. ALVAREZ DID NOT HURT THE VICTIM IN THIS CASE.

19 THE EVIDENCE WILL SHOW THAT HE WAS IN FACT  
20 IN PASADENA WITH A FRIEND BY THE NAME OF LAURENCE FROM  
21 8:00 AT NIGHT TO ABOUT 3:45 THAT MORNING.

22 THE EVIDENCE WILL SHOW THAT HE LEAVES THE  
23 HOME OF LAURENCE -- BAUTISTA HIS LAST NAME IS -- AT  
24 3:45, AND HE GOES TO EAST LOS ANGELES WHERE HIS PARENTS  
25 LIVE.

26 HE WAS STAYING WITH HIS PARENTS THOSE FEW  
27 DAYS BEFORE THIS INCIDENT.

28 AND MR. ALVAREZ HAD HIS LICENSE SUSPENDED

1 BECAUSE HE HAD FALLEN BEHIND IN CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS  
2 AND, THEREFORE, HAD A WARRANT OUT FOR HIM.

3 THE EVIDENCE WILL ALSO SHOW YOU THAT HE  
4 SUFFERS FROM A NERVOUS CONDITION THAT MAKES HIM JITTERY  
5 AND MAKES HIM REACT MORE NERVOUSLY THAN THE NORMAL  
6 HUMAN BEING WOULD.

7 HE ACTUALLY AT 3:45, TEN TO 4:00 RUNS A STOP  
8 SIGN AND SEES THE LIGHTS OF THE BLACK AND WHITE CHP  
9 UNIT STOPPING HIM. HE GETS NERVOUS AND FLEES, DOES NOT  
10 STOP, AND THAT WAS IN THE EAST LOS ANGELES AREA, ONE  
11 BLOCK AWAY FROM WHERE HIS PARENTS LIVE.

12 AND HE SAYS, NO, I'M JUST GOING TO GO TO MY  
13 PARENTS' HOME. AND AS HE DID NOT STOP, THE BLACK AND  
14 WHITE UNIT RAMS INTO MR. ALVAREZ'S CAR, RAMS THE CAR  
15 INTO A FENCE.

16 THE OFFICERS COME OVER, THEY BEAT THE HELL  
17 OUT OF MR. ALVAREZ. THEY ARREST HIM.

18 PRIOR TO THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A SHOOTING  
19 REPORT, SHOOTING CALL. THIS CRIME BEING A VEHICLE  
20 SIMILAR TO WHAT MR. ALVAREZ WAS DRIVING.

21 AND THEY TAKE HIM TO THE LOCATION.  
22 MR. ALVAREZ IS IN HANDCUFFS.

23 OH, BY THE WAY, THEY DID NOT FIND AT THE  
24 TIME OF THE ARREST A WEAPON ON MR. ALVAREZ'S PERSON OR  
25 IN THE CAR.

26 THEY -- MR. ALVAREZ WILL TELL YOU THEY  
27 SWABBED HIS HANDS. THEY TAKE -- THE GUNPOWDER RESIDUE  
28 TEST IS USED. THEY TAKE THE TOP HE WAS WEARING WITH

1 MR. MONTANEZ: IT IS SOMETHING THAT I AM  
2 PERSONALLY ASKING AND NOT THE DEFENDANT.

3 THE COURT: WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT. I UNDERSTAND  
4 WHAT YOU MEAN ABOUT NOT WANTING THE TRIAL TO GO ON  
5 UNNECESSARILY, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, THE JURORS ARE  
6 WAITING TO HEAR THE NEXT WITNESS.

7 I'LL GIVE HIM A CHANCE TO DO IT AROUND 3:00.  
8 OKAY?

9 MR. MONTANEZ: VERY WELL. THANK YOU.  
10

11 (THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE  
12 HELD IN OPEN COURT IN THE  
13 PRESENCE OF THE JURY:)

14  
15 THE CLERK: SIR, PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME FOR THE  
16 RECORD. INTERPRETER SPELLING, PLEASE.

17 THE WITNESS: OSWALDO RIVAS CHACON.

18 THE INTERPRETER: O-S-W-A-L-D-O. RIVAS,  
19 R-I-V-A-S. CHACON, C-H-A-C-O-N.

20 THE COURT: PLEASE PROCEED.

21 MR. ARIAS: THANK YOU.  
22

23 DIRECT EXAMINATION  
24 BY MR. ARIAS:

25 Q. MR. CHACON, I'M GOING TO BE ASKING YOU SOME  
26 QUESTIONS ABOUT JUNE 7TH, THE YEAR 2002, AT  
27 APPROXIMATELY 3:15 A.M.

28 NOW, ON THAT DAY AND TIME WERE YOU AT 2677

1 TO COME TO COURT?

2 A. NO.

3 Q. DIDN'T YOU AS YOU SAT IN THE DISTRICT  
4 ATTORNEY'S OFFICE THIS MORNING WITH ME AND THE D.A.  
5 INVESTIGATOR -- DIDN'T YOU TELL US YOU THOUGHT THE  
6 DEFENDANT WAS CUCKOO AS YOU SAID, AND YOU DID A THING  
7 LIKE THIS WITH YOUR HAND?

8 DIDN'T YOU IN FACT DO THAT?

9 A. YES, BECAUSE OF --

10 Q. YOU HAVE ANSWERED MY QUESTION.

11 A. -- WHAT HAD HAPPENED.

12 Q. OKAY. DIDN'T YOU IN FACT TELL THE D.A.  
13 INVESTIGATOR THAT YOU WERE WORRIED AND YOU DID NOT WANT  
14 YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION REVEALED SUCH AS YOUR  
15 ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER, AND THAT SORT OF THING?

16 ISN'T THAT CORRECT?

17 A. MY TELEPHONE?

18 Q. YES.

19 A. NO.

20 Q. DIDN'T YOU IN FACT TELL THE D.A.  
21 INVESTIGATOR YOU WERE WORRIED, YOU DID NOT WANT YOUR  
22 PERSONAL INFORMATION MADE AVAILABLE TO ANYBODY HERE  
23 BECAUSE YOU WERE AFRAID?

24 A. NO, I DID NOT SAY THAT.

25 Q. BUT YOU DID TELL HIM YOU DID NOT WANT YOUR  
26 PERSONAL INFORMATION RELEASED BECAUSE YOU WERE WORRIED  
27 ABOUT THAT; RIGHT? YES OR NO?

28 A. NO.

1 D E F E N S E  
2  
3  
4

5 JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ,  
6  
7 THE DEFENDANT HEREIN, CALLED AS A WITNESS IN HIS OWN  
8 BEHALF, WAS SWORN AND TESTIFIED AS FOLLOWS:  
9  
10 THE CLERK: SIR, PLEASE STOP THERE. RAISE YOUR  
11 RIGHT HAND.  
12  
13 YOU DO SOLEMNLY STATE THAT THE TESTIMONY YOU  
14 MAY GIVE IN THE CAUSE NOW PENDING BEFORE THIS COURT  
15 SHALL BE THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT  
16 THE TRUTH, SO HELP YOU GOD.  
17  
18 THE WITNESS: YES.  
19  
20 THE CLERK: THANK YOU, SIR. PLEASE BE SEATED AT  
21 THE WITNESS STAND.  
22  
23 THE WITNESS: HOW ARE YOU?  
24  
25 THE CLERK: SIR, PLEASE PULL THE MICROPHONE  
26 COMFORTABLY IN FRONT OF YOU.  
27  
28 THEN SPEAKING INTO THE MICROPHONE PLEASE  
STATE AND THEN SPELL YOUR FULL NAME FOR THE RECORD,  
SIR.  
29  
30 THE WITNESS: OKAY. YEAH, MY NAME IS JUAN BOSCO  
31 ALVAREZ. AND I'M REPRESENTING HERE BY MY ATTORNEY,  
32 MR. MONTANEZ, AND --  
33  
34 MR. MONTANEZ: YOU HAVE TO SPELL YOUR LAST NAME,  
35 PLEASE.  
36  
37 THE WITNESS: MY LAST NAME IS A-L-V-A-R-E-Z.  
38 MR. MONTANEZ: OKAY. THANK YOU.

1 A. YEAH, IT WAS AT THE SAME TIME.

2 Q. DID THEY TELL YOU THAT IT WAS TO BE  
3 ANALYZED?

4 A. NO, THEY DID NOT.

5 Q. I SEE.

6 A. THEY JUST TOOK IT.

7 Q. I SEE. DO YOU SUFFER FROM A NERVOUS  
8 CONDITION?

9 A. YES, I DO. I SUFFER FROM A NERVOUS -- IT'S  
10 A NERVOUS AND A HEART CONDITION THAT I HAVE. IT'S  
11 CALLED HYPERTHYROIDISM.

12 Q. WHAT DOES THAT MAKE YOU FEEL?

13 A. THAT CAUSES INSOMNIA AND NERVOUSNESS SYSTEM  
14 LIKE FAILURE, AND IT CAUSES A HYPER -- HYPERACTIVITY,  
15 HYPERTENSION.

16 Q. I SEE. SO IT ACTUALLY CAUSES YOU TO BE A  
17 LITTLE HYPER THAN NORMAL?

18 A. YEAH, VERY HYPERACTIVE.

19 Q. I SEE.

20 A. THAT'S WHY IT IS CALLED HYPERTHYROIDISM.

21 Q. YES. WELL, YOU HEARD THE TESTIMONY OF  
22 MR. AGUILAR HERE.

23 HE SAID THAT HE RECOGNIZED YOU AS THE GUY  
24 WHO HAD THE GUN --

25 A. UH-HUH.

26 Q. -- WHO FIRED AT HIM?

27 A. UH-HUH.

28 Q. DID YOU EVER -- DID YOU FIRE A GUN AT

1 A. YES, THAT'S CORRECT.

2 Q. AND YOU'RE POSITIVE YOU WERE CARRYING THE  
3 COMPUTER TO HIS HOUSE; RIGHT?

4 A. YES, POSSIBLY.

5 Q. BECAUSE HE WAS GOING TO FIX IT; CORRECT?

6 A. NO, HE WAS NOT GOING TO FIX IT. HIS FRIEND  
7 HAD FIXED IT FOR ME.

8 Q. SO THE COMPUTER --

9 A. IT'S JUST AT THAT TIME I COULDN'T FIND PETER  
10 AT HIS HOME. THAT'S THE REASON WHY I WENT TO LARRY  
11 BAUTISTA'S HOME.

12 THEY'RE NOT FAR AWAY. THEY'RE MAYBE ABOUT  
13 FIVE BLOCKS AWAY FROM EACH OTHER.

14 Q. SO YOU WERE AT ANOTHER FRIEND'S HOME, AND HE  
15 WAS FIXING THE COMPUTER; IS THAT CORRECT?

16 A. NO, I WAS NEVER AT HIS HOME FIXING NO  
17 COMPUTER. I PASSED THROUGH HIS HOUSE LOOKING FOR HIM.  
18 SO THE NEIGHBORS TOLD ME WASN'T THERE. SO THAT'S WHY I  
19 WENT OVER TO LARRY BAUTISTA'S HOME.

20 Q. EXCUSE FOR SOME BEER?

21 A. EXCUSE ME?

22 Q. YOU WENT THERE FOR SOME BEER; IS THAT  
23 CORRECT?

24 A. NO, WHEN I GOT THERE, HE WAS DRINKING A  
25 LITTLE BEER. I DON'T DRINK BEER DUE TO MY HEALTH  
26 CONDITION.

27 Q. PERHAPS I'M CONFUSED. SO LET ME ASK THE  
28 QUESTION.

1 OPINION HOW LONG MR. BAUTISTA WAS LOOKING AT YOUR  
2 COMPUTER, TINKERING WITH IT, WHATEVER HE WAS DOING.

3 A. I DON'T KNOW. THREE HOURS.

4 Q. ABOUT THREE HOURS?

5 A. THREE-AND-A-HALF HOURS, THREE HOURS.

6 Q. OKAY. ABOUT THREE, THREE-AND-A-HALF HOURS?

7 A. UH-HUH.

8 Q. AND WHILE HE'S WORKING ON THE COMPUTER FOR  
9 THREE OR THREE-AND-A-HALF HOURS, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

10 A. WELL, I WAS LOOKING AT HIS WORKING ON THE  
11 COMPUTER. I WANTED TO LEARN A LITTLE BIT MYSELF.

12 Q. WHAT EXACTLY WAS HE DOING TO THE COMPUTER  
13 THAT YOU SAW?

14 A. WELL, HE WAS TRYING TO OPEN UP THE WINDOWS I  
15 COULD REMEMBER BECAUSE IT JUST LOCKED, AND THE -- I  
16 KNOW THAT THE WINDOWS WOULDN'T OPEN, AND THEN BY ITSELF  
17 EVERYTHING WOULD TURN OFF.

18 THEY SAID THAT IT WAS A LITTLE PROBLEM WITH  
19 THE LITTLE BATTERY IF I COULD REMEMBER.

20 Q. WHO SAID THAT?

21 A. A FEW PEOPLE TOLD ME. MAYBE MORE THAN TWO  
22 PEOPLE.

23 Q. OKAY. BUT ACTUALLY WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT  
24 IS MR. BAUTISTA AS HE'S WORKING ON YOUR COMPUTER FOR  
25 THE THREE-AND-A-HALF HOURS, WHAT DID YOU GUYS TALK  
26 ABOUT?

27 A. WE WERE TALKING ABOUT COMPUTERS.

28 Q. FOR THE ENTIRE THREE-AND-A-HALF HOURS?

1           A.    I DO REMEMBER HE TRIED TO GIVE ME A LITTLE  
2           BOTTLE, A LITTLE BEER, BUT AT THAT TIME, NO, I DIDN'T  
3           WANT TO DRINK NO BEER.

4           Q.    BECAUSE YOU HAVE A HEALTH CONDITION;  
5           CORRECT?

6           A.    YEAH, I DO HAVE A HEALTH CONDITION.

7           Q.    SO YOU DEFINITELY DIDN'T DRINK ANY BEER THAT  
8           NIGHT; RIGHT?

9           A.    NOT REALLY.

10          Q.    WELL, "NOT REALLY" IS NOT REALLY AN ANSWER.  
11          YES OR NO?

12          A.    NO, I DIDN'T DRINK -- I DON'T DRINK -- I  
13          DIDN'T DRINK ANY BEER.

14          Q.    YOU DID NOT HAVE ANY BEER AT ALL?

15          A.    I DIDN'T DRINK NO BEERS.

16          Q.    NOT EVEN A SIP; IS THAT CORRECT?

17          A.    MAYBE A SIP, YEAH.

18          Q.    OKAY. MAYBE YOU HAD A SIP?

19          A.    MAYBE I HAD THE BOTTLE RIGHT THERE JUST FOR  
20          HIM NOT TO FEEL BAD, BUT, NO, I DON'T DRINK.

21          Q.    SO LET ME SEE IF I GOT THIS STRAIGHT.

22            YOU TOLD HIM THAT YOU DON'T DRINK BECAUSE OF  
23            A HEALTH CONDITION; CORRECT?

24          A.    UH-HUH.

25          Q.    YOU TOLD HIM THAT?

26          A.    NO, HE DIDN'T KNOW. I DIDN'T TELL HIM. HE  
27          ACTUALLY DOESN'T KNOW MY PERSONAL LIFE, NO.

28          Q.    RIGHT. SO HE OFFERS YOU A BEER; CORRECT?

1 DESK RIGHT THERE.

2 AND ME, YOU KNOW, I WENT TO THE KITCHEN, AND  
3 I WENT TO THE LIVING ROOM, AND I WENT TO HIS -- TO HIS  
4 ROOM. HE HAS LIKE A BIG STUDIO OF COMPUTERS AND STUFF.

5 Q. SO WHERE DID YOU EAT YOUR HOT DOGS?

6 A. AT THE LIVING ROOM.

7 Q. IN THE LIVING ROOM?

8 A. YEAH.

9 Q. AND WHERE DID MR. BAUTISTA EAT HIS HOT DOGS?

10 A. I HAD TWO HOT DOGS.

11 ACTUALLY, I WAS BITING THEM, WALKING AROUND  
12 BECAUSE I TOLD YOU I CAN'T BE STILL. I HAVE TO BE  
13 CONSTANTLY MOVING AROUND.

14 Q. WHAT ABOUT MR. BAUTISTA? WHERE DID HE EAT  
15 HIS HOT DOGS?

16 A. I CAN'T TELL YOU. I DON'T REMEMBER ABOUT NO  
17 HOT DOG HIM EATING.

18 Q. BUT YOU JUST TESTIFIED YOU BOUGHT HIM A HOT  
19 DOG?

20 A. YEAH, BUT I DON'T REMEMBER HIM EATING NO HOT  
21 DOG. I DIDN'T SEE HIM, YOU KNOW.

22 Q. OKAY. SO YOU ARE SAYING THAT HE INVITED YOU  
23 IN TO EAT THE HOT DOG?

24 A. YEAH, BUT THAT TYPE OF GUY HE DOESN'T REALLY  
25 LIKE HOT DOGS, YOU KNOW. HE WAS LIKE, OH, YOU KNOW,  
26 WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO EAT A HOT DOG FOR.

27 Q. WHEN DID HE SAY THIS TO YOU?

28 A. EXCUSE ME?

1 LAURENCE BAUTISTA,  
2 CALLED AS A WITNESS BY THE DEFENDANT, WAS SWORN AND  
3 TESTIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

4 THE CLERK: SIR, PLEASE STEP FORWARD THROUGH THE  
5 DOUBLE DOORS NEAR THE WITNESS STAND, PLEASE.

6 STOP RIGHT THERE. RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND.

7 YOU DO SOLEMNLY STATE THAT THE TESTIMONY YOU  
8 MAY GIVE IN THE CAUSE NOW PENDING BEFORE THIS COURT  
9 SHALL BE THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT  
10 THE TRUTH, SO HELP YOU GOD.

11 THE WITNESS: I DO.

12 THE CLERK: THANK YOU, SIR. PLEASE STEP FORWARD  
13 AND BE SEATED IN THE WITNESS STAND.

14 SIR, PLEASE ADJUST THE MICROPHONE ARM  
15 COMFORTABLY IN FRONT OF YOU. THEN SPEAKING INTO THE  
16 MICROPHONE, PLEASE STATE AND THEN SPELL YOUR FULL NAME  
17 FOR THE RECORD, SIR.

18 THE WITNESS: LAURENCE BAUTISTA. IT'S  
19 B-A-U-T-I-S-T-A.

20 THE CLERK: THANK YOU, SIR.

22 DIRECT EXAMINATION  
23 BY MR. MONTANEZ:

24 Q. GOOD AFTERNOON, MR. BAUTISTA.

25 DO YOU KNOW MR. ALVAREZ?

26 A. YES, I DO.

Q. HOW LONG HAVE YOU KNOWN MR. ALVAREZ?

28 A. APPROXIMATELY TWO-AND-A-HALF YEARS.

1 Q. NOW, YOU REMEMBER COMING TO COURT ON  
2 NOVEMBER 21ST OF THIS YEAR?

3 DO YOU REMEMBER COMING TO COURT?

4 A. YES.

5 Q. AND YOU SAT DOWN -- ACTUALLY YOU MET IN THE  
6 HALLWAY WITH MYSELF, AND THERE WAS A D.A.I.  
7 INVESTIGATOR THERE?

8 A. YES.

9 Q. BY THE NAME OF MR. LANGFORD?

10 A. I'M NOT SURE HIS NAME. BUT THERE WAS AN  
11 INVESTIGATOR THERE.

12 Q. DO YOU REMEMBER TELLING MR. LANGFORD THAT  
13 YOU THOUGHT THE DEFENDANT WAS A LITTLE WEIRD?

14 A. NO, I DIDN'T SAY THAT.

15 Q. YOU NEVER SAID THAT?

16 A. I SAID HE'S QUIRKY.

17 Q. OKAY.

18 NOW, DO YOU REMEMBER TELLING MR. LANGFORD  
19 WHEN HE ASKED YOU, ALL RIGHT, WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO TELL  
20 ME, AND DO YOU REMEMBER TELLING HIM YOU WERE NOT SURE  
21 WHAT DAY THIS WAS?

22 DO YOU REMEMBER MAKING THAT STATEMENT?

23 A. NO, I SAID -- NO, I DIDN'T SAY THAT.

24 Q. WHAT DID YOU SAY EXACTLY?

25 A. I SAID I WASN'T SURE WHAT DAY OF THE WEEK IT  
26 WAS.

27 Q. OKAY. WHEN HE ASKED YOU THIS WAS JUNE 6, DO  
28 YOU REMEMBER SAYING I DON'T REALLY RECALL WHAT DAY IT

1 ATTORNEYS WILL ARGUE THEIR CASE TO YOU.

2 PLEASE REMEMBER WHAT THE ATTORNEYS HAVE TO  
3 SAY IS NOT EVIDENCE.

4 IF EITHER OF THEM MISSTATES THE EVIDENCE,  
5 YOU ARE TO RELY ON THE EVIDENCE THAT YOU HAVE HEARD  
6 THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF THIS TRIAL.

7 IF EITHER OF THEM MISSTATES THE LAW, YOU ARE  
8 TO RELY ON THE LAW THAT I HAVE GIVEN YOU AND THE LAW  
9 THAT I WILL GIVE YOU AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE  
10 ARGUMENTS.

11 THE PEOPLE WILL ARGUE FIRST AND LAST BECAUSE  
12 THE PEOPLE SHOULDER THE BURDEN OF PROOF.

13 MR. ARIAS.

14 MR. ARIAS: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR.

15  
16 OPENING ARGUMENT

17 BY MR. ARIAS:

18 GOOD AFTERNOON, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

19 NOW, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AS YOU CAN SEE IN  
20 THIS TRIAL ONE OF THE BIGGEST ISSUES WILL BE WHOM YOU  
21 BELIEVE OF THESE WITNESSES BECAUSE OBVIOUSLY NOT ALL OF  
22 THEM ARE TELLING THE TRUTH.

23 NOW, IN DOING THAT, ONE OF THE JURY  
24 INSTRUCTIONS YOU GET IT'S GOT A WHOLE LIST OF FACTORS  
25 ON THE BELIEVABILITY OF A WITNESS, AND THE JUDGE READ  
26 THEM TO YOU. IT HAS EVERYTHING TO DO WITH THEIR  
27 DEMEANOR, AND IT GOES ON AND ON.

28 AND I'M NOT GOING TO GO THROUGH ALL OF THEM

1 AND HE IS TRYING TO DITCH IT. THAT'S WHAT THE EVIDENCE  
2 SHOWS US.

3 NOW, I'M NOT GOING TO GET INTO THE  
4 DEFENDANT'S VERSION EXCEPT I SUBMIT TO YOU THAT IT WAS  
5 JUST UTTERLY RIDICULOUS. HE RAMBLED AT TIMES.

6 THESE TWO HAD SO MANY INCONSISTENCIES  
7 TOGETHER. HOW ABOUT WHO HAD THE COMPUTER? THEY'RE  
8 BOTH POSITIVE THEY EACH HAD IT.

9 HOW LONG TV WAS WATCHED, WHETHER THE  
10 DEFENDANT WAS REALLY INVITED IN AFTER GETTING BACK FROM  
11 THE 7-ELEVEN. THESE TWO JUST DIDN'T HAVE THEIR STORY  
12 STRAIGHT, AND THAT WAS THEIR PROBLEM.

13 AND I MEAN AS FAR AS HIS WHOLE ENTIRELY  
14 RAMBLING INCOHERENT AT TIMES STORY, I'M NOT GOING TO  
15 GET INTO THIS.

16 I WILL JUST URGE ALL OF YOU TO TAKE A LOOK  
17 AT THAT INSTRUCTION, BELIEVABILITY OF A WITNESS. TAKE  
18 THOSE FACTORS AND APPLY THEM TO THE DEFENDANT'S STORY.  
19 THAT'S ALL I WILL ASK.

20 NOW, LET ME TALK ABOUT THE CHARGES.

21 ATTEMPTED MURDER. OKAY. WHAT WE HAVE GOT  
22 IS THE DEFENDANT OUTSIDE IN THE PARKING LOT OF THE  
23 COMPLEX, APPARENTLY HANGING OUT THERE BECAUSE  
24 MR. AGUILAR SAID HE WAS SORT OF LEANING AGAINST THE  
25 WALL.

26 MR. AGUILAR WALKS BY, SAYS HELLO BECAUSE HE  
27 RECOGNIZES HIM, CONTINUES ONTO HIS CAR, GETS TO THE  
28 GATE, AND GETS OUT TO THE STREET.

## 1 CLOSING ARGUMENT

2 BY MR. MONTANEZ:

3 GOOD AFTERNOON, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

4 MR. ALVAREZ AND I WOULD LIKE TO ALSO THANK  
5 YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK AND YOUR ATTENTION IN THIS CASE.  
6 WITHOUT YOU THIS SYSTEM WOULD NOT WORK.7 AS YOU KNOW, THIS IS A CRIMINAL TRIAL WHERE  
8 THE BURDEN OF PROOF IS ON THE PROSECUTION TO PROVE EACH  
9 AND EVERY ELEMENT BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT. IT'S NOT  
10 LIKE A CIVIL CASE. THAT IT IS BY PREPONDERANCE OF THE  
11 EVIDENCE.12 AND YOU'VE HEARD THE EVIDENCE, AND I WOULD  
13 SUBMIT TO YOU THEY HAVE NOT PROVED EACH AND EVERY  
14 ELEMENT OF EVERY CRIME BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT.

15 LET'S TALK ABOUT THE ATTEMPTED MURDER.

16 WHAT DOES THE VICTIM, MR. AGUILAR SAYS?

17 HE SAYS THAT HE'S WALKING OUT OF HIS HOUSE  
18 AT 3:15 IN THE MORNING. HE GLANCED AT A FIGURE THAT  
19 WAS TO THE LEFT BEHIND OF HIS.20 GLANCING DOES NOT MEAN STARING. I SUBMIT TO  
21 YOU HE DID NOT HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY IN THAT DARK AREA  
22 EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE TWO LIGHTS UP THERE, STILL  
23 3:30 -- 3:15 IN THE MORNING, TO REALIZE WHO THAT PERSON  
24 IS.25 NO FACIAL FEATURES. HE TOLD YOU I GLANCED  
26 AT THAT PERSON. HE CONTINUES ON. SEES OR HEARS  
27 SOMETHING. TURNS AROUND. HE GETS SHOT IN THE FOREARM.

28 HE ENTERS INTO A STATE OF SHOCK AT THAT

1                   MR. ALVAREZ WAS THERE WITH ME UNTIL ABOUT  
2 THAT TIME. FROM PASADENA TO THE EAST LOS ANGELES AREA  
3 MIGHT TAKE YOU AT THAT TIME OF THE MORNING FIFTEEN  
4 MINUTES.

5                   WAS MR. ALVAREZ A TRUTHFUL WITNESS? OF  
6 COURSE HE WAS. HE HAD REALLY -- HE WAS HIMSELF. YOU  
7 MIGHT FIND THAT HE MOVES A LITTLE BIT WEIRD AND HE'S A  
8 LITTLE NERVOUS, BUT THAT'S WHOM HE IS.

9                   HE WAS TELLING YOU THE TRUTH. THERE WAS NO  
10 INCONSISTENT TESTIMONY. ONLY ONE. WHO HAD THE  
11 COMPUTER.

12                  ONE OF THEM MUST HAVE HAD IT, EITHER  
13 MR. ALVAREZ OR -- THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU SHOULD  
14 DISREGARD THE ENTIRE TESTIMONY.

15                  THAT HAPPENED A FEW MONTHS AGO. THAT'S THE  
16 ONLY INCONSISTENCY. NOT BECAUSE HE DOESN'T LIKE HOT  
17 DOGS. HE DOESN'T LIKE HOT DOGS. HE DIDN'T EAT HIS HOT  
18 DOG. HE JUST DIDN'T WANT TO KICK MR. ALVAREZ OUT AT  
19 THAT TIME. HE WAS TELLING YOU THE TRUTH.

20                  NOW, I AM NOT GOING TO GET INTO WHETHER, YOU  
21 KNOW, THE PREMEDITATED OR DELIBERATE OR EVEN IF THE  
22 GUY -- HIS INJURIES AMOUNTED TO GREAT BODILY INJURY,  
23 WAS HE DYING.

24                  THE FACT IS THAT MR. ALVAREZ DID NOT DO THIS  
25 CRIME.

26                  YOU KNOW THIS IS THE BEYOND A REASONABLE  
27 DOUBT THING STANDARD. YOU MAY THINK, WELL, MR. ALVAREZ  
28 MIGHT HAVE DONE IT. I MIGHT BELIEVE THE I.D. OF

1                   AND THE COURT WILL FIRST SENTENCE THE  
2 DEFENDANT ON COUNT 4, PENAL CODE SECTION 664 AND 187  
3 WITH THE ALLEGATION THAT HE COMMITTED THE ATTEMPTED  
4 MURDER WILLFULLY, DELIBERATELY, AND WITH PREMEDITATION  
5 WITHIN THE MEANING OF PENAL CODE SECTION 664 (A).

6                   THE SENTENCE FOR THAT COUNT IS LIFE  
7 IMPRISONMENT WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF PAROLE.

8                   ADDITIONALLY, THE ALLEGATIONS PURSUANT TO  
9 PENAL CODE SECTION 12022.53(B), 12022.53(C) AND  
10 12022.53(D) WERE FOUND TO BE TRUE BY THE JURY. THE  
11 GREATEST OF THESE ENHANCEMENTS IS PENAL CODE SECTION  
12 12022.53(D), WHICH IS 25 YEARS TO LIFE.

13                  THEREFORE, THE DEFENDANT IS SENTENCED TO  
14 SERVE 25 YEARS TO LIFE CONSECUTIVE TO THE LIFE TERM  
15 IMPOSED FOR THE ATTEMPTED MURDER.

16                  HE IS ALSO GIVEN 215 DAYS OF ACTUAL CREDIT.  
17 NO GOOD TIME/WORK TIME CREDIT.

18                  HE WAS ARRESTED ON JUNE 7TH. I GAVE HIM  
19 CREDIT FROM JUNE 7TH TO TODAY'S DATE, WHICH THE COURT  
20 COMPUTES TO BE 215 DAYS.

21                  WITH RESPECT TO THE DETERMINATE SENTENCING  
22 COUNTS, WHICH IS COUNT 1 AND 2, THE COURT SELECTS COUNT  
23 1 AS THE PRINCIPAL TERM BECAUSE IT HAS THE GREATEST  
24 TERM OF IMPRISONMENT.

25                  THE COURT SELECTS THE MIDTERM OF THREE YEARS  
26 AS THE BASE TERM TO COUNT 1.

27                  ADDITIONALLY, THE JURY FOUND THE ALLEGATION  
28 PURSUANT TO 12022.5(A) (1) AND PENAL CODE SECTION

1 12022.7(A) TO BE TRUE.

2 WITH RESPECT TO THE ALLEGATION PURSUANT TO  
3 12022.5(A)(1) THE COURT SELECTS THE MIDTERM OF FOUR  
4 YEARS TO RUN CONSECUTIVE TO THE THREE YEARS BASE TERM  
5 IN COUNT 1.

6 WITH RESPECT TO THE ALLEGATION PURSUANT TO  
7 12022.7(A), THE DEFENDANT IS ALSO GIVEN THREE YEARS TO  
8 RUN CONSECUTIVE TO THE BASE TERM IN COUNT 1.

9 THE TOTAL PRISON TERM FOR COUNT 1 IS TEN  
10 YEARS.

11 THE TEN YEARS IS STAYED BECAUSE THE OFFENSE  
12 ALLEGED IN COUNT 1 IS BASED ON AN ACT THAT MAY BE  
13 CHARGED UNDER DIFFERENT STATUTES, AND IN THIS CASE IT  
14 WAS CHARGED UNDER COUNT 4, BUT CAN ONLY BE PUNISHED FOR  
15 ONE WITH THE LONGEST POTENTIAL TERM OF IMPRISONMENT.

16 THE SENTENCE OF TEN YEARS OF COUNT 1 IS  
17 STAYED PURSUANT TO PENAL CODE SECTION 654.

18 WITH RESPECT TO COUNT 2, VEHICLE CODE  
19 SECTION 2800.2(A), THE COURT SELECTS THE MIDTERM OF TWO  
20 YEARS AS THE BASE TERM TO RUN CONCURRENT TO THE  
21 SENTENCE IMPOSED IN COUNT 4.

22 BECAUSE THE CRIME ALLEGED OR THE CRIME IN  
23 COUNT 2 WAS COMMITTED CLOSELY IN TIME TO THE CRIME IN  
24 COUNT 4 AND ALSO BECAUSE THE DEFENDANT HAS BEEN GIVEN  
25 TWO LIFE TERMS IN COUNT 4, FOR THOSE REASONS COUNT 2 IS  
26 TO RUN CONCURRENT TO COUNT 4.

27 HE IS ALSO ORDERED TO PAY \$1,000 IN  
28 RESTITUTION FINE.

# **PETITIONER'S APPENDIX 12**

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**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,  
Plaintiff,

v.

01 JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ (1/31/1972) (Blk#  
7308285)

Defendant(s).

**CASE NO. BA232567**

**INFORMATION**

Arraignment Hearing  
Date: 07/05/2002  
Department: CEN 113L 05 2002

JOHN A. GALLI, CLERK  
BY SCHWARTZ, DEPUTY

**INFORMATION  
SUMMARY**

Ct. No.	Charge	Charge Range	Defendant	Special Allegation	Alleg. Effect
1	PC 245(a)(2)	2-3-4	ALVAREZ, JUAN BOSCO	PC 12022.5(a)(1) PC 12022.7(a)	+3-4-10 +3 Yrs

The District Attorney of the County of Los Angeles, by this Information alleges that:

**COUNT 1**

On or about June 7, 2002, in the County of Los Angeles, the crime of ASSAULT WITH A FIREARM, in violation of PENAL CODE SECTION 245(a)(2), a Felony, was committed by JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, who did willfully and unlawfully commit an assault on GERALDO ANGELES-AGUILAR with a firearm.

It is further alleged that, pursuant to Penal Code section 1203.095, there is a presumptive minimal jail time required if you are convicted of this charge.

"NOTICE: Conviction of this offense will require you to provide specimens and samples pursuant to Penal Code section 296. Willful refusal to provide the specimens and samples is a crime."

"NOTICE: The above offense is a serious felony within the meaning of Penal Code section 1192.7(c)."

It is further alleged that in the commission and attempted commission of the above offense, the said defendant(s), JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, personally used a firearm(s), to wit: HANDGUN, within the meaning of Penal Code sections 1203.06(a)(1) and 12022.5(a)(1) also causing the above offense to become

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MINUTE ORDER  
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DATE PRINTED: 12/04/02

CASE NO. BA232567

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
VS.  
DEFENDANT 01: JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ

INFORMATION FILED ON 07/05/02.

COUNT 01: 245(A)(2) PC FEL - ASSAULT WITH FIREARM ON PERSON.  
COUNT 02: 2800.2(A) VC FEL - ELUDE/FLEE FROM PURSUING OFFCR.  
COUNT 03: 14601.1(A) VC MISD - DRIVING WITH SUSPENDED LICENSE.  
COUNT 04: 664-187(A) PC FEL - ATTEMPTED MURDER.

ON 12/04/02 AT 900 AM IN L.A. SUPERIOR - CENTRAL DEPT 115

CASE CALLED FOR JURY TRIAL

PARTIES: RUTH ANN KWAN (JUDGE) MICHAEL TORRES (CLERK)  
MARIANNE BRACCI (REP) CARL B. ARIAS (DA)

DEFENDANT IS PRESENT IN COURT, AND REPRESENTED BY E J MONTANEZ PRIVATE COUNSEL  
THE INFORMATION IS AMENDED BY INTERLINEATION AND THE DEFENDANT IS ARRAIGNED.

COUNT (03) : DISPOSITION: DISMISSAL IN FURTHER OF JUSTICE PER 1385 PC

COURT GRANTS PEOPLES MOTION TO DISMISS COUNT 3 PURSUANT TO PENAL  
CODE SECTION 1385 AS MORE FULLY REFLECTED IN THE NOTES OF THE  
COURT REPORTER.

NEXT SCHEDULED EVENT:  
JURY TRIAL IN PROGRESS

MATTER TRANSFERRED FROM DEPARTMENT 100 IS CALLED FOR JURY TRIAL  
WITH DEFENDANT, COUNSEL AND ALL PROSPECTIVE JURORS PRESENT AS  
HERETOFORE.

OUT OF THE PRESENCE OF THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS:  
COURT GRANTS PEOPLE'S MOTION TO DISMISS COUNT 3 AND AMEND THE  
INFORMATION BY INTERLINEATION AS TO COUNT 4 BY STRIKING THE  
WORD "DEATH" AS TO THE GREAT BODILY INJURY ALLEGATION.

DEFENSE MOTION PURSUANT TO EVIDENCE CODE SECTION 402 TO EXCLUDE/  
LIMIT THE TESTIMONY OF WITNESS OSBALDO IS HEARD AND DENIED AS  
MORE FULLY REFLECTED IN THE NOTES OF THE OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

JURY TRIAL  
PAGE NO. 1 HEARING DATE: 12/04/02

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CASE NO. BA232567  
DEF NO. 01

DATE PRINTED 12/04/02

COURT ORDERS WITNESS MR. L. BAUTISTA IS ORDERED ON CALL FOR THE  
NEXT 10 DAYS WITHOUT FURTHER ORDER, NOTICE OR SUBPOENA.

IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS:  
A PANEL OF 50 PROSPECTIVE JURORS ARE SWEORN RE:QUALIFICATIONS,  
THE FIRST 18 PROSPECTIVE JURORS ARE SEATED AND VOIR DIRE  
COMMENCES.

THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS ARE ADMONISHED AND ALLOWED TO SEPARATE  
FOR THE LUNCH BREAK.

OUT OF THE PRESENCE OF THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS:

COURT AND COUNSEL CONFER RE:G.S.R.KIT AS MORE FULLY REFLECTED  
IN THE NOTES OF THE COURT REPORTER.  
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS:  
VOIR DIRE RESUMES.

12 JURORS AND 2 ALTERNATE JURORS ARE SWEORN TO TRY THE CAUSE.

THE JURORS ARE ADMONISHED AND ALLOWED TO SEPARATE.  
JURY TRIAL IS CONTINUED TO 12-5-02 IN THIS DEPARTMENT.  
ALL PARTIES ARE ORDERED TO RETURN.

COURT ORDERS AND FINDINGS:

-THE COURT ORDERS THE DEFENDANT TO APPEAR ON THE NEXT COURT DATE.

NEXT SCHEDULED EVENT:  
12/05/02 1030 AM JURY TRIAL IN PROGRESS DIST L.A. SUPERIOR - CENTRAL DEPT  
115

JURY TRIAL  
PAGE NO. 2 HEARING DATE: 12/04/02

MINUTE ORDER  
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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DATE PRINTED: 12/05/02

CASE NO. BA232567

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
VS.  
DEFENDANT 01: JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ

INFORMATION FILED ON 07/05/02.

COUNT 01: 245(A)(2) PC FEL - ASSAULT WITH FIREARM ON PERSON.  
COUNT 02: 2800.2(A) VC FEL - ELUDE/FLEE FROM PURSUING OFFCR.  
COUNT 04: 664-187(A) PC FEL - ATTEMPTED MURDER.

ON 12/05/02 AT 1030 AM IN L.A. SUPERIOR - CENTRAL DEPT 115

CASE CALLED FOR JURY TRIAL IN PROGRESS

PARTIES: RUTH ANN KWAN (JUDGE) MICHAEL TORRES (CLERK)  
MARIANNE BRACCI (REP) CARL B. ARIAS (DA)

DEFENDANT IS PRESENT IN COURT, AND REPRESENTED BY E J MONTANEZ PRIVATE COUNSEL

BAIL SET AT \$1,000,000

JURY TRIAL RESUMES FROM 12-4-02 WITH DEFENDANT, COUNSEL AND ALL  
JURORS PRESENT AS HERETOFORE.

IN THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY:  
COURT INSTRUCTS THE JURY WITH CALJIC JURY INSTRUCTION #.50.

PEOPLE AND DEFENSE MAKE OPENING STATEMENTS.

GERALDO AGUILAR, ASSISTED BY SPANISH INTERPRETER-ARMONDO  
REYNOSO, OATH ON FILE, IS CALLED SWORN AND TESTIFIES FOR THE  
PEOPLE.

PEOPLE'S EXHIBIT # 1 (POSTERBOARD WITH 6 COLOR PHOTOS-A/F) AND  
#2 (COLOR PHOTO) ARE MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION ONLY.

OUT OF THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY:  
WITNESS OSWALDO RIVAS CHACON-ASSISTED BY SPANISH INTERPRETER,  
ARMONDO REYNOSO, OATH ON FILE IS ORDERED TO RETURN AT 1:30 P.M.

PAGE NO. 1 JURY TRIAL IN PROGRESS  
HEARING DATE: 12/05/02

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CASE NO. BA232567  
DEF NO. 01

DATE PRINTED 12/05/02

WITHOUT FURTHER ORDER NOTICE OR SUBPOENA.

IN THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY:

WITNESS OSWALDO RIVAS CHACON-ASSISTED BY SPANISH INTERPRETER,  
ARMONDO REYNOSO, OATH ON FILE IS CALLED, SWEORN AND TESTIFIES  
FOR THE PEOPLE.

CARLOS VALLENCIA AND MANUEL DOMINGUEZ ARE CALLED SWEORN AND  
TESTIFIES FOR THE PEOPLE.

DEFENSE EXHIBITS # A AND B (EACH A COLOR PHOTO BLOW-UP) ARE  
MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION ONLY.

THE JURY IS ADMONISHED AND ALLOWED TO SEPARATE. JURY TRIAL IS

CONTINUED TO 12-6-02.

ALL PARTIES ARE ORDERED TO RETURN.

COURT ORDERS AND FINDINGS:

-THE COURT ORDERS THE DEFENDANT TO APPEAR ON THE NEXT COURT DATE.

NEXT SCHEDULED EVENT:

12/06/02 1030 AM JURY TRIAL IN PROGRESS DIST L.A. SUPERIOR - CENTRAL DEPT  
115

CUSTODY STATUS: DEFENDANT REMANDED

PAGE NO. 2

JURY TRIAL IN PROGRESS  
HEARING DATE: 12/05/02

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MINUTE ORDER  
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DATE PRINTED: 12/06/02

CASE NO. BA232567

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
VS.  
DEFENDANT 01: JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ

INFORMATION FILED ON 07/05/02.

COUNT 01: 245(A)(2) PC FEL - ASSAULT WITH FIREARM ON PERSON.  
COUNT 02: 2800.2(A) VC FEL - ELUDE/FLEE FROM PURSUING OFFCR.  
COUNT 04: 664-187(A) PC FEL - ATTEMPTED MURDER.

ON 12/06/02 AT 1030 AM IN L.A. SUPERIOR - CENTRAL DEPT 115

CASE CALLED FOR JURY TRIAL IN PROGRESS

PARTIES: RUTH ANN KWAN (JUDGE) MICHAEL TORRES (CLERK)  
MARIANNE BRACCI (REP) CARL B. ARIAS (DA)

DEFENDANT IS PRESENT IN COURT, AND REPRESENTED BY E J MONTANEZ PRIVATE COUNSEL

BAIL SET AT \$1,000,000

JURY TRIAL RESUMES FROM 12-5-02 WITH DEFENDANT, COUNSEL AND ALL  
JURORS PRESENT AS HERETOFORE.

OUT OF THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY:  
COURT AND COUNSEL CONFER RE:TRIAL AND WITNESS SCHEDULE.

IN THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY:  
OFFICER ANTHONY JONES IS CALLED, SWORN AND TESTIFIES FOR THE  
PEOPLE.

PEOPLE'S EXHIBIT # 3 AND #4 (EACH TWO COLOR PHOTO COPIYS ON  
WHITE PAPER); #5 (COLOR MAP DIAGRAM)AND #6 (LAC+USC MEDICAL  
RECORDS) ARE MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.  
BRANDON GARRETT IS CALLED, SWORN AND TESTIFIES FOR THE PEOPLE.

COURT AND COUNSEL STIPULATE AS MORE FULLY REFLECTED IN THE  
NOTES OF THE OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER.

PAGE NO. 1 JURY TRIAL IN PROGRESS  
HEARING DATE: 12/06/02

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CASE NO. BA232567  
DEF NO. 01

DATE PRINTED 12/06/02

PEOPLE'S EXHIBITS # 1 THRU #6 PREVIOUSLY MARKED FOR  
IDENTIFICATION ARE ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE. PEOPLE REST.

OUT OF THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY:  
DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR JUDGMENT ON ACQUITTAL PURSUANT TO PENAL  
CODE SECTION 1118.1 IS HEARD AND DENIED AS MORE FULLY REFLECTED  
IN THE NOTES OF THE OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER.

COURT AND COUNSEL CONFER RE:TRIAL AND WITNESS SCHEDULE.

IN THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY:  
JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ IS CALLED, SWORN AND TESTIFIES IN HIS OWN  
BEHALF.

LAWRENCE BAUTISTA IS CALLED, SWORN AND TESTIFIES FOR THE  
DEFENSE.

OUT OF THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY:  
COURT AND COUNSEL CONFER RE:PEOPLE'S MOTION TO LIMIT/EXCLUDE  
LETTER BY WITNESS BAUTISTA AS RULED UPON AND MORE FULLY  
REFLECTED IN THE NOTES OF THE OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER.

IN THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY:  
WITNESS LAWRENCE BAUTISTA, PREVIOUSLY CALLED AND SWORN RESUMES  
TESTIFYING FOR THE DEFENSE.

DEFENSE EXHIBIT #C (COLOR PHOTO) AND #D (HANDWRITTEN LETTER)  
ARE MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION ONLY.

DEFENSE EXHIBITS # A,B,C AND D PREVIOUSLY MARKED FOR  
IDENTIFICATION ARE ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE.

DEFENSE RESTS.

THE JURY IS ADMONISHED AND ALLOWED TO SEPARATE. JURY TRIAL IS  
CONTINUED TO 12-9-02 IN THIS DEPARTMENT.  
ALL PARTIES ARE ORDERED TO RETURN.

COURT ORDERS AND FINDINGS:

-THE COURT ORDERS THE DEFENDANT TO APPEAR ON THE NEXT COURT DATE.

NEXT SCHEDULED EVENT:  
12/09/02 1030 AM JURY TRIAL IN PROGRESS DIST L.A. SUPERIOR - CENTRAL DEPT  
115

CUSTODY STATUS: DEFENDANT REMANDED

PAGE NO. 2 JURY TRIAL IN PROGRESS  
HEARING DATE: 12/06/02

MINUTE ORDER  
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DATE PRINTED: 12/11/02

CASE NO. BA232567

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
VS.  
DEFENDANT 01: JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ

INFORMATION FILED ON 07/05/02.

COUNT 01: 245(A)(2) PC FEL - ASSAULT WITH FIREARM ON PERSON.  
COUNT 02: 2800.2(A) VC FEL - ELUDE/FLEE FROM PURSUING OFFCR.  
COUNT 04: 664-187(A) PC FEL - ATTEMPTED MURDER.

ON 12/09/02 AT 1030 AM IN L.A. SUPERIOR - CENTRAL DEPT 115

CASE CALLED FOR JURY TRIAL IN PROGRESS

PARTIES: RUTH ANN KWAN (JUDGE) WAYNE SASAKI (CLERK)  
MARIANNE BRACCI (REP) CARL B. ARIAS (DA)

DEFENDANT IS PRESENT IN COURT, AND REPRESENTED BY E J MONTANEZ PRIVATE COUNSEL

BAIL SET AT \$1,000,000

OUT OF THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY, THE COURT IS INFORMED THAT  
JUROR NUMBER 6 IS ILL. THE COURT INFORMS COUNSEL AND IT IS  
STIPULATED THAT ALTERNATE ONE WOULD TAKE THE PLACE OF JUROR

NUMBER 6.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT THE JURY PANEL IS ORDERED INTO COURT.

THE MATTER IS CALLED AS A TRIAL IN PROGRESS WITH ALL JURORS  
PRESENT IN THE COURTROOM TO RESUME JURY TRIAL WITH THE PEOPLE'S  
REBUTTAL CASE.

BRENT MITCHELL IS CALLED, SWORN AND TESTIFIES FOR THE PEOPLE.

THE PEOPLE REST.

THE DEFENSE REBUTTAL CASE BEGINS WITH OSVALDO RIVAS-CHCON, WHO  
IS CALLED, SWORN AND TESTIFIES FOR THE DEFENSE, USING THE  
SPANISH INTERPRETER, AMMIE LEON, OATH ON FILE.

PAGE NO. 1 JURY TRIAL IN PROGRESS  
HEARING DATE: 12/09/02

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CASE NO. BA232567  
DEF NO. 01

DATE PRINTED 12/11/02

THE DEFENSE RESTS. EACH SIDE INDICATES THAT THEY REST.

OUT OF THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY, THE COURT AND COUNSEL CONFER AND ESTABLISH THE FINAL JURY INSTRUCTIONS.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT, THE JURY IS BROUGHT INTO THE COURT AND THE JURY IS READ PRELIMINARY JURY INSTRUCTIONS BY THE COURT.

CLOSING ARGUEMENTS ARE MADE BY THE PEOPLE AND THE DEFENSE.

THE JURY IS ADMONISHED AND EXCUSED FOR THE NOON RECESS AND ORDERED TO RETURN AT 1:30PM TO RESUME CLOSING ARGUMENTS.

THE MATTER RESUMES AT 1:30PM WITH THE ALL PARTIES PRESENT TO RESUME CLOSING ARGUMENTS.

ALL PARTIES HAVING RESTED, THE COURT GIVES THE JURORS THEIR FINAL JURY INSTRUCTIONS.

ALL PARTIES STIPULATE TO THE COURT GIVING THE JURY INSTRUCTIONS AS READ TO THE JURY WITH THE EXHIBITS AS PREVIOUSLY ENTERED. PEOPLE'S 1 THROUGH 06 AND DEFENSE A THROUGH D ARE GIVEN TO THE JURY.

THE BAILIFF IS ORDERED SURN BY THE CLERK OF THE COURT TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE JURY AND THE ALTERNATE JURORS.

COUNSEL STIPULATE TO THE JURY DELIBERATION SCHEDULE AS 9:00AM TO 12:00PM AND FROM 1:30PM TO 4:30PM DAILY.

THE JURY BEGINS DELIBERATION AT 3:45PM.

AT 4:30PM, THE JURY IS ADMONISHED AND EXCUSED FOR THE EVENING RECESS.

THE MATTER CONTINUES AS A TRIAL IN PROGRESS, JURY IN DELIBERATIONS, TO THE DATE AND TIME INDICATED BELOW.

COURT ORDERS AND FINDINGS:

-THE COURT ORDERS THE DEFENDANT TO APPEAR ON THE NEXT COURT DATE.

NEXT SCHEDULED EVENT:  
12/10/02 900 AM JURY DELIBERATIONS DIST L.A. SUPERIOR - CENTRAL DEPT 115

CUSTODY STATUS: DEFENDANT REMANDED

PAGE NO. 2 JURY TRIAL IN PROGRESS  
HEARING DATE: 12/09/02

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## SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA

vs.

01: JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ

DEPT: 115 CASE NUMBER: BA232567-01

GUILTY VERDICT

COUNT 1

We, the jury in the above entitled action, find the defendant, JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, guilty of the crime of **ASSAULT WITH A FIREARM**, against Geraldo Angeles-Aguilar, in violation of Penal Code Section 245(a)(2), a felony, as charged in Count 1 of the Information.

We further find the allegation that the said defendant, JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, personally used a firearm, to wit a handgun, within the meaning of Penal Code section 12022.5(a)(1) to be

True

Insert TRUE or NOT TRUE

We further find the allegation that the said defendant, JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, personally inflicted great bodily injury upon Geraldo Angeles-Aguilar, within the meaning of Penal Code section 12022.7(a) to be True.

Insert TRUE or NOT TRUE

**FILED**  
LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT

DEC 10 2002

JOHN A. CLARKE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER/CLERK  
 Y W.M. Sasaki  
 DEPUTY

DATED: 12/10/02

# 10

JURY FOREPERSON/ Seat Number

Juror ID Number 014684431

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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA

vs.

01: JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ

DEPT: 115 CASE NUMBER: BA232567-01

GUILTY VERDICT

COUNT 2

We, the jury in the above entitled action, find the defendant, JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, guilty of the crime of EVADING AN OFFICER, WILLFUL DISREGARD, within the meaning of VEHICLE CODE Section 2800.2 (a), a felony, as charged in Count 02 of the Information.

FILED  
LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT  
DEC 10 2002  
JOHN A. CLARKE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER/CLERK  
BY *W.M. Sasaki*  
DEPUTY

DATED: 12/10/02

1#10  
JURY FOREPERSON/ Seat Number

Juror ID Number 014684431

## SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA

vs.

01: JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ

FILED

LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT

DEC 10 2002

JOHN A. CLARKE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER/CLEER  
cc: [unclear]DEPUTY  
BY

DEPT: 115 CASE NUMBER: BA232567-01

GUILTY VERDICT

COUNT 4

We, the jury in the above entitled action, find the defendant, JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, guilty of the crime of ATTEMPTED MURDER, upon Geraldo Angeles-Aguilar in violation of Penal Code Section 664/187(a), a felony, as charged in Count 4 of the Information.

We further find the allegation that the aforesaid attempted murder was committed willfully, deliberately and with premeditation within the meaning of Penal Code section 664(a) to be

True  
Insert TRUE or NOT TRUE

We further find the allegation that the said defendant, JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, personally used a firearm, to wit a handgun, within the meaning of Penal Code section 12022.53(b) to be

True  
Insert TRUE or NOT TRUE

We further find the allegation that the said defendant, JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, personally and intentionally discharged a firearm, to wit a handgun, within the meaning of Penal Code section 12022.53(c) to be True

Insert TRUE or NOT TRUE

We further find the allegation that the said defendant, JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, personally and intentionally discharged a firearm, which proximately caused great bodily injury upon Geraldo Angeles-Aguilar, within the meaning of Penal Code section 12022.53(d) to be

True  
Insert TRUE or NOT TRUE

DATED: 12/10/02

JURY FOREPERSON/ Seat Number

Juror ID Number 141684431

#10

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MINUTE ORDER  
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DATE PRINTED: 12/11/02

CASE NO. BA232567

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
VS.  
DEFENDANT 01: JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ

INFORMATION FILED ON 07/05/02.

COUNT 01: 245(A)(2) PC FEL - ASSAULT WITH FIREARM ON PERSON.  
COUNT 02: 2800.2(A) VC FEL - ELUDE/FLEE FROM PURSUING OFFCR.  
COUNT 04: 664-187(A) PC FEL - ATTEMPTED MURDER.

ON 12/10/02 AT 900 AM IN L.A. SUPERIOR - CENTRAL DEPT 115

CASE CALLED FOR JURY DELIBERATIONS

PARTIES: RUTH ANN KWAN (JUDGE) WAYNE SASAKI (CLERK)  
MARIANNE BRACCI (REP) CARL B. ARIAS (DA)

DEFENDANT IS PRESENT IN COURT, AND REPRESENTED BY E J MONTANEZ PRIVATE COUNSEL

COUNT (01) : DISPOSITION: FOUND GUILTY - CONVICTED BY JURY  
COUNT (02) : DISPOSITION: FOUND GUILTY - CONVICTED BY JURY  
COUNT (04) : DISPOSITION: FOUND GUILTY - CONVICTED BY JURY

COURT ORDERS AND FINDINGS:

-THE COURT ORDERS THE DEFENDANT TO APPEAR ON THE NEXT COURT DATE.

-X:1825008 BKG:7308285 EXHIBIT RECEIPT NUMBER:1777469.

THE MATTER IS CALLED AS A TRIAL IN PROGRESS WITH ALL JURORS  
PRESENT IN THE JURY ROOM TO BEGIN DELIBERATIONS AT 9:10AM.

JURY DELIBERATIONS RESUME FROM 12/09/02 AT 9:10AM AND CONTINUES  
UNTIL 11:00AM, WITH ONE 25 MINUTE BREAK AT 11:00AM TO 11:25AM.

AT 09:55AM THE COURT IS INFORMED BY THE JURY THAT THEY WOULD  
LIKE TO HAVE READBACK OF TESTIMONY.

THE CLERK IS DIRECTED AND DOES CONTACT AND ORDER COUNSEL  
TO APPEAR IN COURT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

JURY DELIBERATIONS  
PAGE NO. 1 HEARING DATE: 12/10/02

CASE NO. BA232567  
DEF NO. 01

DATE PRINTED 12/11/02

COUNSEL ARRIVES AT 11:40AM AND OUT OF THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY  
IT IS DETERMINED THAT THE DEFENDANT WOULD NOT WAIVE HIS PRESENCE  
AT READBACK.

AT 11:45AM WITH THE COURT AND COUNSEL PRESENT IN OPEN COURT WITH  
THE JURY PANNEL, READBACK IS READ BY THE COURT REPORTER.

THE JURY IS ADMONISHED AND EXCUSED FOR THE NOON RECESS  
AND ORDERED TO RETURN AT 1:30PM TO RESUME DELIBERATIONS.

JURY DELIBERATIONS RESUME AT 1:30AM AND CONTINUE TO 2:02PM WHEN  
THE COURT IS INFORMED THAT A VERDICT HAS BEEN REACHED IN THIS  
CASE. COUNSEL ARE NOTICED TO APPEAR AND DO APPEAR AT 2:40PM.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT, THE JURY AND ALTERNATE JUROR ARE ORDERED  
TO BE BROUGHT INTO COURT.

THE VERDICT IS READ AS FOLLOWS:

"TITLE OF COURT AND CAUSE...  
WE, THE JURY IN THE ABOVE ENTITLED ACTION, FIND THE DEFENDANT,  
JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, GUILTY OF THE CRIME OF ASSAULT WITH A  
FIREARM, AGAINST GERALDO ANGELES-AGUILAR, IN VIOLATION OF PENAL  
CODE SECTION 245(A)(2), A FELONY, AS CHARGED IN COUNT 1 OF THE  
INFORMATION.

WE FURTHER FIND THE ALLEGATION THAT THE SAID DEFENDANT, JUAN  
BOSCO ALVAREZ, PERSONALLY USED A FIREARM, TO WIT A HANDGUN,  
WITHIN THE MEANING OF PENAL CODE SECTION 12022.5(A)(1) TO BE  
TRUE.

WE FURTHER FIND THE ALLEGATION THAT THE SAID DEFENDANT, JUAN  
BOSCO ALVAREZ, PERSONALLY INFILCTED GREAT BODILY INJURY UPON  
GERALDO ANGELES-AGUILAR, WITHIN THE MEANING OF PENAL CODE  
SECTION 12022.7(A) TO BE TRUE.

THIS 10TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2002 JURY FOREPERSON SEAT NUMBER 10.  
JUROR IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:014684431."

"TITLE OF COURT AND CAUSE...  
WE, THE JURY IN THE ABOVE ENTITLED ACTION, FIND THE DEFENDANT,  
JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, GUILTY OF THE CRIME OF FLIGHT FROM PEACE  
OFFICER, WITHIN THE MEANING OF VEHICLE CODE SECTION 2800.1(A),  
A LESSER CRIME THAN THAT CHARGED IN COUNT 02 OF THE  
INFORMATION.

THIS 10TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2002 JURY FOREPERSON SEAT NUMBER 10.  
JUROR IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:014684431."

"TITLE OF COURT AND CAUSE..."

PAGE NO. 2 JURY DELIBERATIONS  
HEARING DATE: 12/10/02

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CASE NO. BA232567  
DEF NO. 01

DATE PRINTED 12/11/02

WE, THE JURY IN THE ABOVE ENTITLED ACTION, FIND THE DEFENDANT, JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, GUILTY OF THE CRIME OF ATTEMPTED MURDER, UPON GERALDO ANGELES-AGUILAR IN VIOLATION OF PENAL CODE SECTION 664/187(A), A FELONY, AS CHARGED IN COUNT 4 OF THE INFORMATION.

WE FURTHER FIND THE ALLEGATION THAT THE AFORESAID ATTEMPTED MURDER WAS COMMITTED WILLFULLY, DELIBERATELY AND WITH PREMEDITATION WITHIN THE MEANING OF PENAL CODE SECTION 664(A) TO BE TRUE.

WE FURTHER FIND THE ALLEGATION THAT THE SAID DEFENDANT, JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, PERSONALLY USED A FIREARM, TO WIT A HANDGUN, WITHIN THE MEANING OF PENAL CODE SECTION 12022.53(B) TO BE TRUE.

WE FURTHER FIND THE ALLEGATION THAT THE SAID DEFENDANT, JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, PERSONALLY AND INTENTIONALLY DISCHARGED A FIREARM, TO WIT A HANDGUN, WITHIN THE MEANING OF PENAL CODE SECTION 12022.53(C) TO BE TRUE.

WE FURTHER FIND THE ALLEGATION THAT THE SAID DEFENDANT, JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ, PERSONALLY AND INTENTIONALLY DISCHARGED A FIREARM, WHICH PROXIMATELY CAUSED GREAT BODILY INJURY UPON GERALDO ANGELES-AGUILAR, WITHIN THE MEANING OF PENAL CODE SECTION 12022.53(D) TO BE TRUE.

THIS 10TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2002 JURY FOREPERSON SEAT NUMBER 10.  
JUROR IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:014684431."

THE VERDICTS ARE ORDERED RECORDED AND COUNSEL WAIVES READING OF THE VERDICTS AS RECORDED. THE VERDICTS AND JURY INSTRUCTIONS WHICH ARE GIVEN ARE FILED.

THE JURY IS POLLED, THANKED AND EXCUSED.

THE MATTER IS CONTINUED TO THE DATE AND TIME INDICATED BELOW.  
BAIL SET AT \$1,000,000.

NEXT SCHEDULED EVENT:  
01/07/03 830 AM PROBATION AND SENTENCE HEARING DIST L.A. SUPERIOR -  
CENTRAL DEPT 115

CUSTODY STATUS: DEFENDANT REMANDED

JURY DELIBERATIONS  
PAGE NO. 3 HEARING DATE: 12/10/02

No. \_\_\_\_\_

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IN THE  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

JUAN BOSCO ALVAREZ,

*Petitioner,*

v.

DEBBIE ASUNCION,

*Respondent*

---

On Petition for a Writ of Certiorari to the  
United States Court of Appeals  
for the Ninth Circuit

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

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I, Lauren Collins, do swear or declare that on this date, March 12, 2019, as required by Supreme Court Rule 29, I have served the enclosed Motion for Leave to Proceed in Forma Pauperis, Petition for Writ of Certiorari and Appendix, on each party to the above proceeding required to be served, or that party's counsel, by depositing an envelope containing the above documents in the United States mail properly addressed to each of them and with first-class postage prepaid.

The names and addresses of those served are as follows:

Idan Ivri, Deputy Assistant Attorney General  
300 S. Spring Street, Suite 1702  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
(213) 269-6168

Counsel for Respondent

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on March 12, 2019 at Los Angeles, California.

/s/ Lauren Collins  
Lauren Collins\*

Attorney for Petitioner  
Juan Bosco Alvarez  
*\*Counsel of Record*