

19-8727

No. _____

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Supreme Court, U.S.
FILED

FEB 01 2020

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FELTON HUMPHRIES JR — PETITIONER
(Your Name)

vs.

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA — RESPONDENT(S)

ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO

IN THE NINTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS
(NAME OF COURT THAT LAST RULED ON MERITS OF YOUR CASE)

PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI

FELTON HUMPHRIES JR. CCLR*BC0079
(Your Name)

P.O. Box 5242
(Address)

CORCORAN CA 93212
(City, State, Zip Code)

N/A
(Phone Number)

ORIGINAL

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OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SUPREME COURT, U.S.

A.

DOES HUMPHRIES HAVE A FUNDAMENTAL
RIGHT GUARANTEED BY THE FIFTH, SIXTH
AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS TO A PROPERLY
INSTRUCTED JURY DETERMINING THAT ALL
ELEMENTS OF THE CHARGED CRIMES HAVE
BEEN PROVEN BEYOND A REASONABLE
DOUBT

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B.

WAS HUMPHRIES ENTITLED TO A JURY
INSTRUCTION PINPOINTING HIS THEORY
OF DEFENSE AND WAS HE ENTITLED
TO THE REQUESTED JURY INSTRUCTION
CALCRIM NO 571 VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER
IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE.

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C.

WHERE AN HONEST AND REASONABLE
BELIEF IN THE NEED TO DEFEND IS A
COMPLETE DEFENSE. DOES AN HONEST
BUT UNREASONABLE BELIEF REDUCE THE
HOMICIDE TO MANSLAUGHTER LAW.

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D.

DID THE TRIAL COURT COMMIT REVERSIBLE
ERROR BY REFUSING HUMPHRIES REQUESTED
INSTRUCTION ON IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE.

17

E.

DID THE PROSECUTION PRESENT
SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE TO SUSTAIN
A PREMEDITATION AND DELIBERATE
FIRST DEGREE MURDER CONVICTION.

20

F.

DOES THE NINTH CIRCUIT COURT OF
APPEALS HAVE INHERENT AUTHORITY
TO DEEM HIS REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE
OF APPEALABILITY AS A REQUEST FOR
EXTENTION OF TIME.

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LIST OF PARTIES

All parties appear in the caption of the case on the cover page.

All parties **do not** appear in the caption of the case on the cover page. A list of all parties to the proceeding in the court whose judgment is the subject of this petition is as follows:

RESPONDENT:

XAVIER BECERRA
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF CALIFORNIA
LANCE E. WINTERS
SENIOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
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APPENDIX F //

FELTON LADELL HUMPHRIES JR.,
PETITIONER

PETITIONER

v.

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, et al.
RESPONDENTS.

RESPONDENTS.

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

OPINIONS BELOW

THE OPINION OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT IS NOT REPORTED AND A COPY IS ATTACHED HERETO AS APPENDIX 'A' P.3 THE ORDER OF THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA IS NOT REPORTED AND A COPY IS ATTACHED HERETO AS APPENDIX "C."

JURISDICTION

THE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WAS ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS ON JULY 19, 2019 AND IS ATTACHED HERETO AS APPENDIX A p.1-2. AN ORDER DENYING A PETITION FOR REHEARING EN BANC WAS ENTERED ON NOVEMBER 8, 2019. AND A COPY OF THAT ORDER IS ATTACHED HERETO AS APPENDIX

1 B. JURISDICTION IS CONFERRED BY 28 U.S.C. 1254(1)
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CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY PROVISIONS INVOLVED

THIS CASE INVOLVES AMENDMENTS ~~IV~~, ~~VI~~, AND ~~XIV~~ OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION. WHICH GUARANTEES A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT TO A PROPERLY INSTRUCTED JURY DETERMINING THAT ALL ELEMENTS OF THE CHARGED CRIMES HAVE BEEN PROVEN BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

PROSECUTION CASE

JARED WILLIAMS IDENTIFIED A PHOTOGRAPH OF HIS SISTER, ALICIA WILLIAMS, AND HER DAUGHTERS, THREE-YEAR OLD RHILEY W. AND ONE-YEAR-OLD RHEESE H. ALICIA AND HER DAUGHTERS RESIDED IN APARTMENT J19 LOCATED ON 5242 PENDLETON AVENUE, SOUTH GATE CALIFORNIA. BEFORE MOVING TO THE APARTMENT, ALICIA MARRIED PETITIONER AND RESIDED AT HER MOTHER'S HOUSE FOR SIX MONTHS WHERE JARED ALSO RESIDED.

ON APRIL 3, 2016, AT ABOUT 7:00 P.M. JARED WENT TO THE APARTMENT IN RESPONSE TO AN S.O.S. APPLICATION TEXT MESSAGE FROM ALICIA'S PHONE. AT 6:36 P.M. JARED RECEIVED THE FIRST S.O.S. TEXT WITH A FUZZY PHOTO AND A MESSAGE "I NEED HELP" AND A GOOGLE MAP. THAT MESSAGE WAS AUTOMATICALLY GENERATED BY PRESSING THE APP BUTTON AND NOT TYPED OUT BY SENDER. EN ROUTE TO THE APARTMENT, JARED RECEIVES A SECOND PHOTO WITH A BLURRY FINGERPRINT AS IF SOMEONE'S FINGER WAS HELD OVER THE CAMERA. HE CALLED BUT SHE DID NOT ANSWER.

AT 6:43 P.M., JARED RECEIVED AN EMERGENCY AUDIO MESSAGE WHEREIN THEY WERE ARGUING AND SHE SOUNDED LIKE SHE WAS PLEADING WITH HIM. AT 7:06 P.M., AFTER RECEIVING HER SOS APP TEXT "I'M OKAY", JARED RESPONDED "OPEN THE DOOR". AT 7:07 P.M., JARED RECEIVED ANOTHER AUTOMATED AUDIO MESSAGE ALONG WITH A BLURRY PHOTO OF PETITIONER'S FACE STANDING APPARENTLY OVER ALICIA.

AFTER KNOCKING ON THE APARTMENT'S FRONT DOOR JARED RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM ALICIA SAYING SHE WAS AT HER MOTHER'S HOUSE. JARED CALLED HIS MOTHER AND CONFIRMED ALICIA WAS NOT WITH HER. DESPITE HER TEXTING "I'M OKAY", JARED PUTTING HIS EAR TO THE DOOR, HEARD A BABY CRYING AND A WOMAN SCREAMING. HE BEGAN BREAKING DOWN THE DOOR AND TOLD NEIGHBORS TO CALL THE POLICE. AFTER BREAKING DOWN THE DOOR, JARED HEARD A CRYING BABY. IN THE BATHROOM, HE SAW HIS SISTER WITH MULTIPLE CUTS LAYING IN THE BATHTUB. RHEESE H. WAS CRYING ON THE FLOOR WITH A LARGE CUT ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF HER BODY AND HER INTESTINES EXPOSED. JARED RAN OUT THE FRONT DOOR AND TOLD NEIGHBORS TO CALL AN AMBULANCE, AS HE RETURNED, TWO-YEAR-OLD RHILEY EXITED THE BEDROOM, AS HE CARRIED RHILEY OUT OF THE APARTMENT, SHE SAID "HE CUT MY MOMMY, HE CUT MY MOMMY". LEAVING RHILEY WITH A NEIGHBOR, JARED RETURNED TO THE BATHROOM TO SOOTHE ALICIA BY CONTINUING TO TALK TO HER. ALICIA'S EYES WERE OPEN BUT MADE NO NOISES. AFTER RHEESE AND ALICIA WERE TAKEN AWAY, JARED REMAINED TO IDENTIFY PETITIONER BY THE FREEWAY.

WHILE LIVING TOGETHER JARED RECALLED ONE ARGUMENT WHERE ALICIA WAS YELLING AT PETITIONER. PETITIONER CALMLY SAID HE WAS GOING TO LEAVE. JARED NEVER SAW PETITIONER YELL AT ALICIA OR RAISE HIS HANDS TOWARDS HER.

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

ON APRIL 9, 2016, DEPUTY MEDICAL EXAMINER KEN-B-CHIH SU CONDUCTED THE AUTOPSY OF ALICIA RENE WILLIAMS BORN ON MARCH 16, 1984. SU FOUND 12 STAB WOUNDS AND 23 SHARP FORCE INJURIES ON HER BODY. DR. SU CONCLUDED THE CAUSE OF DEATH WAS MULTIPLE STAB WOUNDS AND THE MANNER OF DEATH HOMICIDE.

ON APRIL 3, 2016, DR. FREDERICK STAFFORD WAS ON DUTY AS EMERGENCY ROOM TRAUMA SURGEON AT LONG BEACH MEMORIAL HOSPITAL WHERE HE TREATED RHEESE H., BORN ON OCTOBER 26, 2015. HE FOUND A STAB WOUND TO HER ABDOMEN WITH EVISCERATION OF SMALL BOWEL AND COLON. THE LATERAL THREE-INCH LONG LACERATION WAS CAUSED BY SLICING MOTION.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE CONTINUED

PETITIONER TESTIMONY

PETITIONER IS 33 YEARS OF AGE AND WAS BORN IN COMPTON, CALIFORNIA. AFTER SERVING IN THE U.S. NAVY, HE ATTENDED COLLEGE AND HAS A DEGREE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION. IN 2011, HE BECAME A MINISTER WITH A SUNDAY MINISTRY IN LOS ANGELES.

AT THE END OF 2013, PETITIONER MET ALICIA WILLIAMS AFTER DATING FOR ALMOST A YEAR THEY BEGAN LIVING TOGETHER. HE TREATED HER 18-MONTH-OLD RHILEY AS HIS OWN. AFTER PROPOSING MARRIAGE, THEY MOVED INTO HER MOTHER'S HOUSE IN FEBRUARY 2015, JOINING HER MOTHER, BROTHER, NEPHEW.

ON JULY 4, 2015 THEY GOT MARRIED, AFTER RHEESE H. WAS BORN OCTOBER 26, 2015. ALICIA'S PERSONALITY CHANGED. SHE REMAINED IN BED AND HAD A LOT OF MOOD SWINGS. SHE GOT ANGRY A LOT. PETITIONER BELIEVED HER HORMONAL CHANGES CAUSED HER PERSONALITY CHANGE.

ON SUNDAY MORNING, APRIL 3, 2016 AT 11:00 AM, ALICIA TOLD PETITIONER SHE WAS LEAVING, WITH RHILEY. HE DID NOT ASK WHERE SHE GOING BECAUSE SHE WAS ANGRY. THE PREVIOUS NIGHT PETITIONER RETURNED HOME FROM WORK HE WAS SURPRISED BY AN AGENT WITH A FAMILY LIFE INSURANCE POLICY PREPARED FOR HIS SIGNATURE. SINCE HE WAS NOT READY OR PREPARED TO REVIEW SAID POLICY HE DECLINED TO SIGN. THE AGENT AGREED TO CONTACT PETITIONER WHEN HE WAS READY. ALICIA FELL UPSET WHEN PETITIONER FAILED TO SIGN POLICY WHICH LED TO VERBAL ALTERCATION, AND LEO UP TO ALICIA LEAVING THE NEXT MORNING. AFTER ALICIA LEFT PETITIONER STAYED HOME WITH RHEESE. ABOUT 4:00 P.M. HE TEXTED ALICIA ASKING ABOUT WHERE SHE WAS. AT ABOUT 5:30 P.M. SHE RETURNED HOME ANGRY AND REFUSED TO SPEAK TO HIM. SHE NEVER AT HIM TEXTING ON HER PHONE SHE STATED "MY HUSBAND DOESN'T WANT TO BE WITH ME SO WHY SHOULD I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU," WHEN PETITIONER ASKED WHAT SHE WAS TALKING ABOUT SHE SAID "YOU NEVER LOVED ME," SHE SAID HE DID NOT CARE OR LOVE RHILEY AND ONLY CARED ABOUT RHEESE.

PETITIONER DID NOT SEE RHILEY WALKING INTO ROOM WHEN HE SAID "YOU'RE REALLY ACTING LIKE A BITCH," WHEN ALICIA SAID HE WAS CUSSING HER OUT IN FRONT OF HER CHILDREN PETITIONER APOLOGIZED. THE ARGUMENT CONTINUED TO THE KITCHEN. AS HE WALKED TOWARD HER SHE WAS TEXTING MESSAGES SHE TURNED HER BACK TO HIM. WHEN HE REACHED FOR HER PHONE HE SAW THAT THE S.O.S. APP WAS ACTIVATED WITH A BLURRY PICTURE AND HER TEXT SAID "FELTONS HERE," HE PUT HER PHONE ON THE TABLE AND WENT TO THE BEDROOM TO PACK HIS BELONGINGS. ALICIA ENTERED THE BEDROOM WITH A KNIFE SAYING "THIS IS THE LAST TIME YOU WILL EVER HAVE THIS ARGUMENT WITH ME."

SAYING HE WAS TIRED OF THIS AND WAS LEAVING PETITIONER WENT INTO THE OTHER BEDROOM TO PACK RHEESE'S CLOTHES AS HE INTENDED TO LEAVE. AS HE TRIED TO PACK, ALICIA CAME UP FROM BEHIND AND GRABBED HIM TELLING HIM TO LEAVE RHEESE'S STUFF ALONE. AS HE TURNED AROUND PETITIONER SHRUGGED HIS RIGHT SHOULDER TO GET HER OFF OF HIM.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE CONTINUED

AT THE TIME PETITIONER WAS 5'8 AND WEIGHED 245 POUNDS. BY HIS THRUSTING MOTION HE PUSHED HER DOWN AND SHE FELL INTO THE CLOSET.

AFTER ALICIA FELL INTO THE CLOSET, PETITIONER SAW SHE WAS BLEEDING FROM A SCRABE ON HER FOREHEAD. HER FINGER WAS BLEEDING ONTO THE FLOOR, WHEN SHE CONTINUED ARGUING, HE TOLD HER TO WASH HER BLEEDING HAND. AND DID NOT SEE HOW HER HAND GOT CUT. IN THE BATHROOM SHE WASHEO WITH ONE HAND STILL HOLDING THE KNIFE IN HER OTHER HAND. WHILE WASHING HER BATHROOM, SHE GOT A PHONE CALL. AFTER RETRIEVING HER PHONE FROM THE KITCHEN, SHE RETURNED TO THE BATHROOM WHILE TALKING ON THE PHONE, SHE SAID "I'M AT MOM'S HOUSE WITH RHILEY. PETITIONER WAS CONCERNED SOMEONE WAS ON THEIR WAY TO HARM HIM BECAUSE OF HER S.O.S. APP BEING ACTIVATED.

ALICIA FOLLOWED PETITIONER INTO THEIR BEDROOM AND ASKED IF HE WANTED A RIDE. WHEN HE SAID HE JUST WANTED TO LEAVE, SHE SAID "I'M SORRY ABOUT THIS." ABOUT TEN MINUTES LATER HE FIRST NOTICED BANNING ON THE DOOR. AS SHE SPOKE. HE PREPARED TO LEAVE GATHERING HIS WALLET AND CLOTHES HE INFORMED HER THAT HE HAD AN ATTORNEY BECAUSE HE WOULD SEEK CUSTODY OF RHEESE. ALICIA RESPONDED ANGRILY BY PROMPTLY GRABBING RHEESE AND WALKING TOWARD THE BATHROOM. FOLLOWING BEHIND PETITIONER ASKED FOR RHEESE BECAUSE HE WAS NOT LEAVING WITHOUT HER.

THEY CONTINUED ARGUING ABOUT RHEESE IN THE BATHROOM. HOLDING RHEESE IN ONE ARM, ALICIA SWUNG HER OTHER ARM WITH THE KNIFE AT PETITIONER, TO DEFEND HIMSELF HE PUT HIS RIGHT HAND UP AND SHE WASHED IT. WHEN SHE TRIED AGAIN HE MOTIONED UP AS IF HE WAS GOING TO PUSH HER. WHEN ALICIA BACKED UP, SHE HIT THE BATHTUB AND FELL INTO IT. WHEN ALICIA FELL, THE KNIFE SLICED RHEESE'S BACK.

SINCE THE AFTER SURGERY HOSPITAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF RHEESE SHOW HER CUT WAS NOT ON HER BACK PETITIONERS RECOLLECTION OF THE KNIFE IN HER BACK IS WRONG. HOWEVER HE DID RECALL PULLING OUT THE KNIFE SOMEWHERE FROM HER RHEESE WAS NOT CRYING AS SHE DEEPLY INHALED AND EXHALED SHARPLY. HE PLACED RHEESE DOWN ON THE FLOOR ON TOP OF TOWELS. HE WAS DOWN ON ONE KNEE AND THOUGHT SHE WAS DEAD HE HAD THROWN THE KNIFE OUTSIDE BATHTUB. AS ALICIA CAME OUT OF THE TUB SHE GRABBED THE KNIFE AND SWUNG IT AT HIM. WHEN HE PUT HIS LEFT ARM UP TO DEFEND HIMSELF, HER KNIFE CUT UNDER HIS FOREARM AND WRIST. SHE SWUNG AT HIM THREE OR FOUR MORE TIMES. HE GOT STABBED ON HIS ARM WITH EACH SWING OF THE KNIFE. PETITIONER ROSE UP FROM ONE KNEE WHEN SHE SWUNG THE KNIFE. WHEN SHE STABBED HIS HAND, HE PUSHED THE KNIFE DOWN AND IT WENT INTO HER LEG.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE CONTINUED

SHE AGAIN SWUNG THE KNIFE AT HIM SHE MISSED AND PETITIONER KNOCKED THE KNIFE OUT OF HER HAND. AS SHE REACHED FOR THE KNIFE HE GRABBED IT AFRAID FOR HIS LIFE. HE STARTED SWINGING THE KNIFE TO KEEP HER AWAY FROM HIM. THEY WERE BOTH STANDING IN THE BATHROOM. HAVING NEVER BEEN ATTACKED WITH A KNIFE BEFORE HE THOUGHT HE WAS GOING TO DIE. AS HE SWUNG THE KNIFE HE DID NOT FEEL THE KNIFE CONNECTING WITH HER. AS SHE WAS PUNCHING AND KICKING AT HIM. WHEN HE BACKED UP FROM HER HE HEARD BANGING ON THE DOOR AND "OPEN THE FUCKEN DOOR!"

LOOKING IN THE DIRECTION OF THE DOOR HE SAW MORE THAN ONE PERSON APPROACHING. TO AVOID THOSE PERSONS HE DECIDED TO EXIT THROUGH THE WINDOW SO HE COULD GET HELP FOR RHEESE. HE WAS AFRAID RHEESE WAS ALMOST DEAD. BEFORE JUMPING OUT OF THE BEDROOM WINDOW HE TOLD RHILEY TO REMAIN IN THE ROOM. AT THE TIME PETITIONER WAS BLEEDING. HE JUMPED OUT THE WINDOW TO AVOID CONFRONTATION RESULTING IN FURTHER INJURY. AFTER JUMPING OUT THE WINDOW, PETITIONER LANDED ON HIS BACK ON TOP OF SOME BUSHES UNDER THE WINDOW. AS HE TRIED TO WALK BOTH OF HIS ANKLES SNAPPED FALLING TO THE GROUND HE CRAWLED INTO THE APARTMENT COMPLEX AND SCREAMED FOR HELP WHEN PETITIONER ASKED FOR HELP BECAUSE HIS BABY HAD BEEN STABBED MATHEW CREHAN AGREED TO CALL POLICE.

PETITIONER CONTINUED CRAWLING AND YELLING FOR HELP. PETITIONER AWOKE WHEN HE HEARD A POLICE CAR PULL UP. AS TWO OFFICERS WALKED TOWARDS HIM ONE SAID "PUT YOUR HANDS UP" PETITIONER YELLED THREE TIMES "I CANNOT MOVE" IMMEDIATELY THE DOG WAS RELEASED. PETITIONER WAS SITTING UP AND GRABBED THE DOG WITH HIS RIGHT ARM. SCARED PETITIONER SQUEEZED THE DOG'S NECK TO PREVENT BEING BITTEN. HE WAS AFRAID THE DOG BITE WOULD INJURE HIM MORE THAN HE ALREADY WAS. HE WAS SITTING UP ON THE SIDE OF THE BUSHES CLEARLY VISIBLE TO POLICE. PETITIONER COMPLIED WITH OFFICER COOK'S ORDER TO RELEASE THE DOG. PETITIONER WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ARRESTED. PETITIONER NEVER TOOK ANY STEPS TO FLEE OR AVOID ARREST. HE ONLY SOUGHT TO PROTECT HIMSELF AGAINST THE DOG. UNABLE TO WALK ON HIS OWN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT PLACED HIM ON GURNY TO BE TRANSPORTED TO HOSPITAL. AFTER BEING BOOKED HE WAS PLACED IN LEG CASTS AND HE WAS BED RESTRICTED FOR 16-20 WEEKS. ALSO HE WAS TREATED FOR SEVERAL LACERATION TO ARMS AND HANDS WHICH HAD TO BE STURDED AND STAPLED IN DIFFERENT PLACES.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE CONTINUED

PETITIONER'S WOUNDS

IN PHOTOGRAPHS OF PETITIONER'S HAND, DR. SU CHICH IDENTIFIED AN INCISION WOUND AT HIS (PETITIONER'S) RIGHT PALM CLOSE TO PETITIONER'S RIGHT WRIST. IN PHOTOS OF SHARP FORCE INJURIES AS DEFENSIVE WOUNDS AS HE WOULD IF FOUND ON A DECEDED. DR. PAUL BRONSTON MD., A PRACTICING MEDICAL DOCTOR IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM FOR OVER 25 YEARS, HAS QUALIFIED AS A COURT-APPOINTED EXPERT IN EMERGENCY MEDICINE MORE THAN 100 TIMES. DR. BRONSTON, MD. DID NOT TREAT PETITIONER.

REVIEWING PHOTOGRAPHS OF PETITIONER'S HAND AND ARM DR. BRONSTON OPINED THAT THE CUTS MARKS ON THE HAND WERE CAUSED BY A SHARP OBJECT. THE MARKS COULD HAVE POSSIBLY BEEN MADE IN DIFFERENT SCENARIOS INCLUDING ANOTHER PERSON STABBING THE HAND AND IF PEOPLE WERE ROLLING AROUND A KNIFE, YOU COULD GET STABBED THAT WAY.

REVIEWING OTHER PHOTOS OF SIX LACERATIONS ON HIS FOREARM DR. BRONSTON OPINED THE INJURIES INCLUDED SCARRING ON AN OLDER LACERATION CLOSED BY STAPLES. IN COMPARING TWO PHOTOS OF THE SAME INJURY THE PASSAGE OF TIME WAS A MATTER OF WEEKS. HE COMPARED DIFFERENT SETS OF PHOTOS ON FOREARM LOCATED ABOUT A THIRD OF THE WAY DOWN FROM THE ELBOW TOWARDS THE HAND. IN ADDITION TO A SUTURED CUT THERE WERE OTHER CUTS WITH STAPLES OR SUTURES WHICH DR. BRONSTON DESCRIBED AS NON-JABBED FROM A SHARP OBJECT. HYPOTHETICALLY, LOOKING AT THE PHOTOS OF THE ARM DR. BRONSTON OPINED THE INJURY WAS FROM A SHARP OBJECT RATHER THAN FROM A DOG BITE. WHERE A DOG BITE WILL GRAB AND HOLD DOWN AND WHERE DOG AND SUSPECT ARE MOVING DR. BRONSTON OPINED IT WOULD MORE LIKELY THAN NOT LEAVE A CLEAN STRAIGHT CUT DEPICTED IN THE PHOTOS.

IN PHOTOS OF OTHER CUTS WHICH APPEARED APPROXIMATELY SAME AGE DR. BRONSTON OPINED THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE THAT THOSE CUTS WERE CAUSED BY A SINGLE DOG BITE. THESE INJURIES WERE SEPARATE STRAIGHT OR SEMI-STRaight INJURIES CAUSED BY A SHARP OBJECT. THESE INJURIES WERE NOT CONSISTENT WITH A PUNCTURE WOUND BUT A BITE. ALL OF THE INJURIES COULD HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY A SINGLE DOG BITE. ALL OF THE INJURIES COULD HAVE BEEN DEFENSIVE WOUNDS FROM A KNIFE ATTACK.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

PROCEEDINGS

BY AN INFORMATION FILED ON JUNE 24, 2016 PETITIONER FELTON LADELL HUMPHRIES, JR. WAS CHARGED WITH MURDER (P.C. § 187(a), COUNT 1), ATTEMPTED MURDER (P.C. § 664/187 COUNT 2), RESISTING A PEACE OFFICER (P.C. § 148(a) COUNT 3) AND INTERFERENCE WITH A POLICE ANIMAL (P.C. § 600(a)) (COUNT 4) COUNTS 1 AND 2 WERE ENHANCED WITH PERSONAL USE OF DEADLY WEAPON ALLEGATION (P.C. 12022(b)(1) WITH GREAT BODILY-INJURY-ON CHILD ALLEGATION (P.C. § 1203.075(a), 12022.7(d)) WITH PRIOR SERIOUS FELONY CONVICTION ALLEGATION (P.C. § 667(a)) AND WITH A PRIOR STRIKE FELONY CONVICTION ALLEGATION (P.C. §§ 667(b)(i), 1170.12) (ICT 108-112) AND IS ATTACHED HERETO AS APPENDIX 'A' P 1-2. AN ORDER DENYING A PETITION FOR REHEARING EN BANC WAS ENTERED ON NOVEMBER 8, 2019. AND A COPY IS ATTACHED HERETO AS APPENDIX 'B'. JURISDICTION IS CONFERRED BY 28 U.S.C. 1254(1).

REASONS FOR GRANTING THE PETITION

- 1) CONFLICTS WITH DECISIONS OF THIS COURT, THIS CASE IS IMPORTANT FOR THESE ISSUES IT RAISES AS TO THE PROPER ALLOCATION OF FUNCTIONS BETWEEN THE STATE COURTS, FEDERAL DISTRICT COURTS AND FEDERAL COURT OF APPEALS.
- 2) THE STANDARD SET BY THIS COURT TO OBTAIN A CRIMINAL CONVICTION, ESPECIALLY AS TO FIRST-DEGREE MURDER AS IN THE CASE AT BAR, SHOULD BE THE RULE NOT THE EXCEPTION, THIS ENFORCEMENT LIES AT THE FOUNDATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF OUR CRIMINAL LAW.

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THE COURTS REFUSAL TO INSTRUCT ON

1 PETITIONERS REQUESTED IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE
2 INSTRUCTION VIOLATED HIS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS TO DUE
3 PROCESS OF LAW AND TO TRIAL BY JURY. AND THE ISSUES
4 PRESENT A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR THIS HONORABLE COURT
5 TO SECURE UNIFORMITY ON THIS IMPORTANT QUESTION OF LAW
6 THE TRIAL COURTS, DISTRICT COURTS, AND COURTS OF APPEALS
7 ARE DIVIDED ON THE ISSUE OF WHETHER AN IMPERFECT SELF-
8 DEFENSE INSTRUCTION SHOULD BE GIVEN WHENEVER THERE IS
9 SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE WARRANTING A PERFECT SELF-DEFENSE
10 INSTRUCTION. IN PEOPLE V. CEJA (1994) 26 CAL. APP. 4TH 78,
11 86-87, DISAPPROVED ON OTHER GROUND(S) IN PEOPLE V. BLAKELY
12 (2000) 23 CAL.4TH 87, 92 AND IN PEOPLE V. DELEON (1992) 10
13 CAL. APP. 4TH 815, 824. DIVISION SEVEN OF THE SECOND APPELLATE
14 DISTRICT HELD THAT WHENEVER THERE IS SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE
15 SUPPORTING PERFECT SELF-DEFENSE, THERE WILL ALWAYS BE
16 SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT AN IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE.
17 THIS IS NECESSARILY SO BECAUSE PERFECT SELF-DEFENSE REQUIRES
18 BOTH AN HONEST AND REASONABLE BELIEF IN IMMINENT PERIL
19 WHILE IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE REQUIRES ONLY A HONEST BELIEF
20 CEJA SUPRA 26 CAL. APP. 4TH AT PP. 86-87; DELEON SUPRA 10 CAL
21 APP. 4TH AT P. 824. TO THE CONTRARY, IN PEOPLE V. RODRIGUEZ
22 (1997) 53 CAL. APP. 4TH 1250, 1274, THE FIFTH APPELLATE
23 DISTRICT HELD THAT, EVEN WHERE THE JURY IS INSTRUCTED ON
24 PERFECT SELF-DEFENSE THE TRIAL COURT HAS A SUA SPONTE
25 DUTY TO INSTRUCT ON IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE UNLESS BASED
26 ON THE EVIDENCE. SIMILARLY, IN PEOPLE V. VALENZUELA (2011)
27 199 CAL. APP. 4TH 1214 1228-1231, DIVISION ONE OF THE SECOND
28 APPELLATE DISTRICT AFFIRMED THAT, WHERE THE TRIAL COURT

1 RULED IT WOULD INSTRUCT ON PERFECT SELF-DEFENSE, THE TRIAL
2 AND NOT ON IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE WITHOUT DEFENSE
3 OBJECTION, SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE DID NOT SUPPORT A SUA
4 SPONTE DUTY TO INSTRUCT ON IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE.

5 IN PEOPLE V. SZADZIEWICZ (2011) 199 CAL. APP
6 4TH 1214, 1228-1231, DIVISION EIGHT OF THE SECOND
7 APPELLATE DISTRICT HELD THAT, WHERE THE TRIAL COURT
8 INSTRUCTED ON PERFECT SELF-DEFENSE, THERE WAS NO DUTY TO
9 INSTRUCT SUA SPONTE ON IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE BECAUSE
10 THE DEFENDANT'S WRONGFUL CONDUCT BY INITIATING THE PHYSICAL
11 ASSAULT CREATED THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH LEGALLY JUSTIFIED
12 HIS ADVERSARY'S ATTACK OR PURSUIT.

13 TURNING TO THE CASE NOW BEFORE THE COURT
14 PETITIONER SUPPORTED HIS REQUESTED INSTRUCTION BY ARGUING
15 THE "SIZE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN [HUMPHRIES AND ALICIA] AND
16 HER ACTUAL ABILITY TO CAUSE DEATH" MIGHT CAUSE THE JURY TO
17 FIND UNREASONABLE HIS STATED BELIEF THAT HIS LIFE WAS IN
18 DANGER. THE COURT OF APPEALS STATES THE PETITIONER FAILED
19 TO CITE THE RECORD SHOWING THIS DISCREPANCY IN SIZE AND
20 STRENGTH. (SLIP OPN., AT 0.17) HOWEVER, WHERE THE COURT
21 AND COUNSEL REVIEWED THE AUTOPSY REPORT AS PEOPLE'S
22 EXHIBIT 59 (ART 1609) WHICH WAS PUBLISHED TO THE JURY
23 (ART 1612, 1614, 1615) AND WHERE PETITIONER ADMITTED BEING
24 5'8" AND 245 POUNDS AT THE TIME (5RT 276) ANY MISREPRE-
25 SENTATION OF THE DISCREPANCY WOULD HAVE BEEN CONTESTED
26 BY THE PROSECUTOR. THE RECORD SHOWS THE PROFFERED
27 DISCREPANCY IN SIZE AND STRENGTH WAS UNCONTROVERTED.
28 CONTINUING ON, THE COURT OF APPEAL REJECTS PETITIONER'S
[REDACTED]

1 CLAIM THAT THE TRIAL COURT'S INSTRUCTION ON PERFECT SELF-
2 DEFENSE ESTABLISHES THERE WAS SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO
3 WARRANT AN IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE INSTRUCTION. (SLIP OPN.
4 AT P.17.) CONTRARY TO CEJA, THE COURT OF APPEALS HEREIN
5 AFFIRMS ITS PRIOR RULING IN Szadziewicz AND REITERATES "AN
6 IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE INSTRUCTION IS NOT REQUIRED JUST
7 BECAUSE THE COURT IS INSTRUCTING ON ACTUAL SELF-DEFENSE.
8 WHERE THE DEFENDANT'S VERSION OF EVENTS, IF BELIEVED,
9 ESTABLISH ACTUAL SELF-DEFENSE WHILE THE PROSECUTION'S
10 VERSION, IF BELIEVED, NEGATES BOTH ACTUAL AND IMPERFECT
11 SELF-DEFENSE, THE COURT IS NOT REQUIRED TO GIVE THE
12 INSTRUCTION" (SLIP OPN., AT D.19.). UNDERLYING THE COURT OF
13 APPEALS' ERROR IS ITS CLAIM THAT THE JURY HAD ONLY TWO
14 OPTIONS: FIRST, THE JURY COULD BELIEVE PETITIONER'S VERSION
15 WHICH ESTABLISHES PERFECT SELF-DEFENSE; OR SECOND, THE JURY
16 COULD BELIEVE THE PROSECUTION'S VERSION WHICH NEGATES
17 BOTH PERFECT AND IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE (SLIP OPN AT 20).
18 THE COURT OF APPEALS EITHER-OR-ANALYSIS IS UNPERSUASIVE
19 BECAUSE THERE IS A THIRD OPTION: THE JURY COULD BELIEVE
20 PETITIONER HAD A GOOD FAITH BELIEF IN THE NEED TO
21 DEFEND BUT IT WAS UNREASONABLE BELIEF BECAUSE
22 PETITIONER WAS PHYSICALLY BIGGER AND STRONGER THAN HIS
23 WIFE.

24 MOREOVER, IN DETERMINING THE SUFFICIENCY OF THE
25 THE FACT THAT THE EVIDENCE MAY NOT INSPIRE BELIEF DOES NOT
26 AUTHORIZE THE REFUSAL OF REQUESTED INSTRUCTION BASED
27 THEREON. "THAT IS A QUESTION WITHIN THE EXCLUSIVE
28 PROVINCE OF THE JURY." PEOPLE V. FLANNEL (1979) 25 CAL.3d

1 668, 684, SUPERCEDED BY STATUTE ON ANOTHER GROUND
2 IN IN RE CHRISTIAN S. (1994) 7 CAL. 4TH 768, 777. DOUBTS
3 AS TO THE SUFFICIENCY OF THE EVIDENCE TO WARRANT
4 INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD BE RESOLVED IN FAVOR OF THE
5 ACCUSED." PEOPLE V. WILSON (1967) 66 CAL. 2d 749, 763

6 WHETHER THE JURY WOULD HAVE CONCLUDED THAT HUMPHRIES
7 HAD A SUBJECTIVELY HONEST BUT OBJECTIVELY UNREASONABLE
8 BELIEF THAT HE WAS IN DEADLY PERIL IS AN OPEN QUESTION
9 THAT THE JURY NEVER HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO ANSWER.

10 FINALLY HUMPHRIES ASK THE COURT, DOES
11 THE NINTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS HAVE THE INHERENT
12 POWER TO DEEM HIS REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPEALABILITY
13 AS A REQUEST FOR EXTENTION OF TIME AS (1) HE DID NOT
14 RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COURT'S JUDGMENT UNTIL JUNE 3, 2019
15 AND ON GOOD FAITH AND BELIEF THAT HE HAD THIRTY DAYS
16 FROM THAT TO FILE A REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPEALABILITY
17 (2) BECAUSE OF "NUMEROUS LOCKDOWNS" CAUSED A MAJOR
18 DISRUPTION" IN HIS ABILITY TO TIMELY FILE HIS REQUEST
19 (3) THE INSTITUTIONAL PHOTOCOPIER IN THE LAW LIBRARY
20 WAS OUT OF ORDER PREVENTED HIM FROM OBTAINING LEGAL
21 COPIES.

22 WAS THE NINTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS
23 RULING BASED ON A PERJURED DECLARATION OF LYNETTA
24 LIMA LIBRARY TECH. WHO WAS FIRED FOR FALSIFICATION
25 OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENT, INTRODUCING DRUGS, CELL PHONES,
26 AND CONTRABAND AND HAVING SEXUAL RELATIONS
27 WITH INMATES FOR MONETARY GAIN, WHICH DENIED
28 HUMPHRIES FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHT TO ACCESS THE COURTS)

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A.

9 DOES HUMPHRIES HAVE A FUNDAMENTAL
10 RIGHT GUARANTEED BY THE FIFTH, SIXTH
11 AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS TO A PROPERLY
12 INSTRUCTED JURY DETERMINING THAT ALL
13 ELEMENTS OF THE CHARGED CRIMES HAVE
14 BEEN PROVEN BEYOND A REASONABLE
15 DOUBT.

16 THE FIFTH AMENDMENT DUE PROCESS CLAUSE
17 "PROTECTS THE ACCUSED AGAINST CONVICTION EXCEPT UPON
18 PROOF BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT OF EVERY FACT
19 NECESSARY TO CONSTITUTE THE CRIME CHARGED" IN RE
20 WINGSHIP (1970) 397 U.S. 358, 364, 90 S.Ct 1068, 25 L.Ed. 2d 368.
21 MORE OVER, THE FIFTH AMENDMENT DUE PROCESS RIGHTS AND
22 THE SIXTH AMENDMENT JURY TRIAL RIGHTS ARE INTERRELATED
23 PUT ANOTHER WAY "IS" THE JURY VERDICT REQUIRED BY THE
24 SIXTH AMENDMENT A JURY VERDICT OF GUILT BEYOND A
25 REASONABLE DOUBT? SULLIVAN V. LOUISIANA (1993) 508
26 U.S. 275, 278, 113 S.Ct 2078, 124 L.Ed. 2d 182.

27 ERRORED OR CONTRADICTORY INSTRUCTIONS
28 DEFINING THE ELEMENTS OF A CRIME MAY VIOLATE THE DUE
29 PROCESS CLAUSE OF THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT AS WELL
30 AS THE SIXTH AMENDMENT RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY ROSE V
31 CLARK (1986) 478 U.S. 570, 580-581, 106 S.Ct. 3101 92 L.Ed.
32 2d 460. THE ACCUSED'S CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO A JURY TRIAL
33 EMBODIES A PROFOUND JUDGMENT ABOUT THE WAY IN WHICH
34 LAW SHOULD BE ENFORCED AND JUSTICE IS ADMINISTERED
35 DUNCAN V. LOUISIANA, SUPRA 391 U.S. at p. 155)

1 THIS STRUCTURAL GUARANTEE REFLECTS A FUNDAMENTAL
2 DECISION ABOUT THE EXERCISE OF OFFICIAL POWER-A
3 RELUCTANCE TO ENTRUST PLENARY POWERS OVER THE LIFE AND
4 LIBERTY OF THE CITIZEN TO ONE JUDGE OR TO A GROUP OF
5 JUDGES. DUNCAN V. LOUISIANA, 391 U.S. at p. 156.

6
7 B.
8

9 WAS HUMPHRIES ENTITLED TO A JURY
10 INSTRUCTION PINPOINTING HIS THEORY
11 OF DEFENSE AND WAS HE ENTITLED
12 TO THE REQUESTED JURY INSTRUCTION
13 CALCRIM NO 571 VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER
14 IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE.

15 "A DEFENDANT IS ENTITLED TO AN INSTRUCTION AS
16 TO ANY RECOGNIZED DEFENSE FOR WHICH THERE EXIST
17 EVIDENCE SUFFICIENT FOR A REASONABLE JURY TO FIND IN
18 HIS FAVOR." MATHEWS V. UNITED STATES (1988) 485 U.S. 58
19 63, 108 S.Ct 883, 98 L.Ed.2d 54. CONSISTENT THEREWITH, A
20 CRIMINAL DEFENDANT IS ENTITLED TO REQUEST AN
21 INSTRUCTION PINPOINTING THE THEORY OF DEFENSE.
22 PEOPLE V. WHARTON (1991) 53 CAL. 3d 522, 570.

23 A REQUESTED INSTRUCTION MUST BE GIVEN IF
24 THE ACCUSED PRESENTS SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO "DESERVE
25 CONSIDERATION BY THE JURY, I. E. EVIDENCE FROM WHICH
26 A JURY COMPOSED OF REASONABLE MEN COULD HAVE
27 CONCLUDED THAT THE PARTICULAR FACTS UNDERLYING THE
28 INSTRUCTION DID EXIST PEOPLE V. FLANNEL, SUPRA 25 CAL

1 3d at pp 684-685 fn.12. MOREOVER, THIS STANDARD
2 NEITHER REQUIRES NOR PERMITS THE TRIAL COURT TO DETERMINE
3 THE CREDIBILITY OF WITNESSES, BUT IT MERELY FREES THE
4 COURT FROM AN OBLIGATION TO INSTRUCT UPON A THEORY
5 WHICH THE JURY COULD NOT REASONABLY FIND TO EXIST.
6 PEOPLE V. WICKERSHAM (1982) 32 CAL. 3d 307, 324-325,
7 DISAPPROVED ON ANOTHER GROUND BY PEOPLE V. BARTON (1995)
8 12 CAL. 4TH 186, 201. INDEED, IN DETERMINING THE SUFFICIENCY OF
9 THE EVIDENCE, THE "FACT THAT THE EVIDENCE MAY NOT INSPIRE
10 BELIEF DOES NOT AUTHORIZE THE REFUSAL OF AN INSTRUCTION
11 BASED THEREON. THAT IS A QUESTION WITHIN THE EXCLUSIVE
12 PROVINCE OF THE JURY." FLANNEL, SUPRA, 25 CAL. 3d at p 684
13 DOUBTS AS TO THE SUFFICIENCY OF EVIDENCE TO WARRANT
14 INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD BE RESOLVED IN FAVOR OF THE ACCUSED
15 PEOPLE V. WILSON, SUPRA 66 CAL. 2d at p 763

16
17 C.

18 WHERE AN HONEST AND REASONABLE
19 BELIEF IN THE NEED TO DEFEND IS A
20 COMPLETE DEFENSE, DOES AN HONEST
21 BUT UNREASONABLE BELIEF REDUCE THE
22 HOMICIDE TO MANSLAUGHTER LAW.

23 TO BE EXONERATED ON A THEORY OF SELF DEFENSE
24 ONE MUST HAVE AN HONEST AND REASONABLE BELIEF IN
25 THE NEED TO DEFEND. A BARE FEAR IS NOT ENOUGH THE
26 THE CIRCUMSTANCES MUST BE SUFFICIENT TO EXCITE THE
27 FEARS OF A REASONABLE PERSON, AND THE PARTY KILLING
28 MUST HAVE ACTED UNDER INFLUENCE OF SUCH FEARS ALONE.

1 FLANNEL SUPRA. 25 CAL.3d at pp. 674-675. JUSTIFICATION DOES
2 NOT DEPEND ON THE EXISTENCE OF ACTUAL DANGER BUT ON
3 APPEARANCES. PEOPLE V. COLLINS 1961 189 CAL. APP. 2d 575,
4 558. IN ORDER THAT A PERSON AVAIL HIMSELF OF HIS RIGHT
5 OF SELF-DEFENSE, IT IS SUFFICIENT THAT APPEARANCES ON
6 THE PART OF HIS ASSAILANT WERE SUCH AS TO AROUSE IN
7 HIS MIND, AS A REASONABLE MAN THAT HIS ASSAILANT WAS
8 ABOUT TO COMMIT A FELONY.

9 UNREASONABLE SELF-DEFENSE, ON THE OTHER HAND
10 DOES NOT REQUIRE THE DEFENDANT'S FEAR TO BE REASONABLE
11 BARTON SUPRA 12 CAL.4TH AT D.200. MOREOVER, IT IS WELL-
12 ESTABLISHED THAT AN HONEST BUT UNREASONABLE BELIEF IN THE
13 NEED TO DEFEND ONESELF FROM IMMINENT PERIL TO LIFE OR
14 GREAT BODILY INJURY, ALTHOUGH INSUFFICIENT FOR SELF-
15 DEFENSE, IS SUFFICIENT TO NEGATE MALICE AFORETHOUGHT
16 THE MENTAL COMPONENT NECESSARY FOR MURDER AND THUS
17 REDUCE MURDER TO MANSLAUGHTER. FLANNEL, SUPRA 25
18 CAL.3d at p. 674

19 IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE, OBTIATES MALICE
20 BECAUSE THAT MOST CULPABLE OF MENTAL STATES CANNOT COEXIST
21 WITH AN ACTUAL WITH AN ACTUAL BELIEF THAT THE LETHAL ACT
22 WAS NECESSARY TO AVOID ONE'S DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY AT
23 THE VICTIM'S HAND. PEOPLE V. RIDS (2000) 23 CAL.4TH 450 461
24 A KILLING IN IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE CONSTITUTES BY DEFINITION
25 UNREASONABLE CONDUCT BECAUSE THE BELIEF IN THE NEED
26 TO DEFEND IS NOT REASONABLE. THE KILLING IS, NEVERTHELESS
27 MITIGATED BECAUSE OF THE DEFENDANT'S MISGUIDED BELIEF
28 PEOPLE V. BELTRAN (2013) 56 CAL.4TH 936, 951 IN HOLDING

1 THAT THE REQUIRED PROVOCATION NEED NOT SHOW THAT A
2 REASONABLE PERSON WOULD BE MOVED TO KILL. BELTRAN
3 STATED: "THE PROPER FOCUS IS PLACED ON THE DEFENDANT'S
4 STATE OF MIND, NOT HIS PARTICULAR ACT. TO BE ADEQUATE
5 THE PROVOCATION MUST BE ONE THAT WOULD CAUSE AN
6 EMOTION SO INTENSE THAT AN ORDINARY PERSON WOULD
7 SIMPLY REACT, WITHOUT REFLECTION." Id at pp 949.

8
9 D.

10 DID THE TRIAL COURT COMMIT REVERSIBLE
11 ERROR BY REFUSING HUMPHRIES REQUESTED
12 INSTRUCTIONS ON IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE

13
14 WHEN THE PROSECUTION OBJECTED TO PETITIONERS
15 REQUESTED FOR THE COURT TO INSTRUCT ON IMPERFECT SELF-
16 DEFENSE (6RT3018) THE FOLLOWING DISCUSSION ENSUED IN
17 PERTINENT PART:

18 THE COURT: I THINK THAT THE EVIDENCE THAT HAS
19 BEEN PRESENTED THROUGHOUT THIS TRIAL SUPPORTS A LOT OF
20 INSTRUCTIONS... BUT ONE INSTRUCTION IT DOES NOT SUPPORT
21 IN "MY ESTIMATION" ESTIMATION IS THE INSTRUCTION ON
22 IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENCE.

23 WHAT THE COURT DID IN IT'S OWN ESTIMATION
24 WAS WEIGH THE CREDIBILITY OF HUMPHRIES TESTMONEY AND
25 WENT ON TO SAY:

26 "THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT MR. HUMPHRIES
27 HONESTLY AND IN GOOD FAITH BUT ERRONEOUSLY BELIEVED IN
28 THE NEED TO DEFEND HIMSELF IF HIS TESTIMONY THAT HE
[REDACTED]

1 GAVE OVER THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS IS ACCEPTED AT
2 FACE VALUE AS AN IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE CASE AND
3 THERE'S ~~NOTHING~~ IN THE OTHER STATEMENT THAT WOULD
4 SUPPORT AN IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE. SO WITH ALL DUE
5 RESPECT THAT REQUEST IS DENIED

6 THIS COURT HELD IN IN RE WINSHIP 397 U.S. 358 25
7 L.E.D. 2d 368 (1970) THAT "THE DUE PROCESS CLAUSE PROTECTS THE
8 ACCUSED AGAINST CONVICTION EXCEPT UPON PROOF BEYOND A
9 REASONABLE DOUBT OF EVERY FACT NECESSARY TO CONSTITUTE
10 THE CRIME WITH WHICH HE IS CHARGED" *Id.* at 364. THIS COURT
11 NOTED THAT THIS STANDARD "PLAYS A VITAL ROLE IN THE
12 AMERICAN SCHEME OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE" AND THAT "THE
13 STANDARD PROVIDES CONCRETE SUBSTANCE FOR THE PRESUMPTION
14 OF INNOCENCE, THAT BEDROCK AXIOMATIC AND ELEMENTARY
15 PRINCIPLE WHOSE ENFORCEMENT LIES AT THE FOUNDATION OF
16 THE ADMINISTRATION OF OUR CRIMINAL LAW."

17 WITH WINSHIP IN MIND, THE COURTS REFUSAL
18 TO INSTRUCT ON IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE WAS CONSTITUTIONALLY
19 INFIRM UNDER THE DUE PROCESS CLAUSE AND THE HOLDING
20 IN WINSHIP ONCE EVIDENCE TENDING TO SHOW PERFECT-
21 SELF DEFENSE WAS INTRODUCED AND AN INSTRUCTION
22 GIVEN ON PERFECT SELF-DEFENSE IS GIVEN AS IT WAS
23 HERE. THE STATE - NOT THE DEFENDANT - HAD TO BEAR THE
24 BURDEN OF PROVING BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT THE
25 ABSENCE OF IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE. THE COURT SHIFTED
26 THE BURDEN. HUMPHRIES PRODUCED EVIDENCE SUFFICIENT
27 TO GENERATE A JURY ISSUE AS TO WHETHER HE HAD A SUBJECTIVELY
28 HONEST BUT OBJECTIVELY UNREASONABLE BELIEF THAT HE

1 WAS IN IMMINENT DANGER OF DEATH OR SERIOUS BODILY
2 INJURY AND THE TRIAL COURT SHOULD HAVE GRANTED THE
3 REQUESTED INSTRUCTION ON IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE.

4
5 E.

6 DID THE PROSECUTION PRESENT
7 SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE TO SUSTAIN
8 A PREMEDITATION AND DELIBERATE
9 FIRST DEGREE MURDER CONVICTION.

10 TO COMMIT FIRST DEGREE MURDER, OTHER THAN THOSE
11 KILLINGS EXPRESSLY DECLARED TO BE MURDER BY STATUTE (§ 189)
12 THE INTENT TO KILL MUST BE THE RESULT OF PREMEDITATION
13 AND DELIBERATION AND BE FORMED UPON PREEXISTING
14 REFLECTION PEOPLE V. ANDERSON (1968) 70 CAL.2d 15, 26
15 NOT THE RESULT OF SUDDEN HEAT OF PASSION PEOPLE V.
16 DAUGHERTY 1953 40 CAL.2d 876, 901-902 OR FROM
17 UNCONSIDERED AND RASH IMPULSES HASTILY EXECUTED
18 PEOPLE V. VELASQUEZ (1980) 26 CAL.3d 425, 435 VACATED
19 AND REMANDED IN CALIFORNIA V. VELASQUEZ (1980) 448
20 U.S. 903. REITERATED IN ITS ENTIRETY IN PEOPLE V.
21 VELASQUEZ (1980) 28 CAL.3d 461, 462 IN A MANNER
22 SO AS TO PRECLUDE PREMEDITATION DAUGHERTY, SUPRA 40
23 CAL.2d AT PP. 901-902.

24 THUS, A FINDING OF FIRST DEGREE MURDER
25 BASED ON PREMEDITATION AND DELIBERATION IS PROPER
26 ONLY WHEN THE DEFENDANT KILLED AS A RESULT OF A
27 DELIBERATE JUDGMENT OR PLAN, CARRIED ON COOLY AND
28 STEADILY ESPECIALLY ACCORDING TO A PRECONCEIVED DESIGN

1 ANDERSON SUPRA 70 CAL.2d at p.26. THE ANDERSON
2 COURT SET FORTH GUIDELINES FOR REVIEWING THE SUFFICIENCY
3 OF EVIDENCE FOR FIRST DEGREE MURDER VERDICTS BASED
4 ON PREMEDITATION AND DELIBERATION. ANDERSON SUPRA
5 REFERS TO THREE TYPES OF EVIDENCE (1) FACTS ABOUT A
6 DEFENDANT'S BEHAVIOR BEFORE THE KILLING THAT SHOW PRIOR
7 PLANNING OF THE INTENDED KILLING; (2) FACTS ABOUT ANY
8 PRIOR RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE DEFENDANT AND THE
9 VICTIM FROM WHICH THE JURY COULD INFER A MOTIVE TO KILL
10 THE VICTIM; AND (3) FACTS ABOUT THE MANNER OF THE
11 KILLING FROM WHICH THE JURY COULD INFER THAT THE
12 DEFENDANT INTENTIONALLY KILLED THE VICTIM ANDERSON
13 70 CAL.2d at pp. 26-27.

14 MOREOVER, PREMEDITATION AND DELIBERATION
15 ARE NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH A DELIBERATE INTENT TO KILL.
16 PREMEDITATION AND DELIBERATION REQUIRES SUBSTANTIALLY
17 MORE REFLECTION; I.E., MORE UNDERSTANDING AND COMPREHEN-
18 SION OF THE CHARACTER OF THE ACT THAN THE MERE
19 AMOUNT OF THOUGHT NECESSARY TO FORM THE INTENT TO KILL.
20 IT IS THEREFORE OBVIOUS THAT THE MERE INTENT TO KILL IS
21 NOT THE EQUIVALENT OF A DELIBERATE AND PREMEDITATED
22 INTENT TO KILL PEOPLE V. STRESS (1988) 205 CAL APP.3d
23 1259, 1269.

24 FROM THE APPLICATION OF THE ANDERSON
25 CRITERIA TO THE CASE AT BAR, IT IS APPARENT THAT
26 THERE WAS NO SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE FITTING WITHIN ANY OF
27 THE ENUMERATED CRITERIA PROVING FIRST DEGREE MURDER
28 AS TO THE FIRST ANDERSON CRITERION, THE PROSECUTOR

1 CITED NO EVIDENCE THAT PETITIONER ACTUALLY PLANNED THE
2 STABBING. AS TO THE SECOND ANDERSON CRITERION, THE
3 PROSECUTION CITED NO EVIDENCE THAT PROFFERED A MOTIVE
4 IN THIS CASE. AS TO THE THIRD ANDERSON CRITERION, THE
5 CRUX OF THE PROSECUTION'S ARGUMENT FOCUSED ON THE
6 INTERVALS BETWEEN THE 23 SHARP FORCE INJURIES AS
7 PROVIDING PETITIONER WITH MULTIPLE OPPORTUNITIES TO
8 THINK ABOUT WHATHE~~Z~~ WAS DOING (6RT3146-3147). YET,
9 WHERE THE ACTUAL TIME FRAM IS UNKNOWN, AN EQUALLY
10 REASONABLE INFERENCE IS THAT SUCH REPETITIVE CONDUCT
11 SHOWS THAT PETITIONER MAY WELL HAVE ACTED FROM A
12 SUDDEN HEAT OF PASSION DAUGHERTY, 70 CAL.2d at p. 902
13 OR FROM AN UNCONSIDERED AND RASH IMPULSE SUFFICIENT
14 TO PRECLUDE PREMEDITATION AND DELIBERATION. IT IS
15 AXIOMATIC THAT THE KILLER ALTED WITH PREMEDITATION
16 AND DELIBERATION. ANDERSON, 70 CAL.2d at p.24 THE
17 PROSECUTOR'S ARGUMENT HEREIN ESSENTIALLY USING
18 EVIDENCE OF PETITIONER'S MANNER OF KILLING ALSO AS
19 EVIDENCE OF HIS PREMEDITATION AND DELIBERATION IS
20 CONTRARY TO CLEARLY ESTABLISHED LAW.

21 IN ANDERSON, WHERE THE 10-YEAR-OLD VICTIM,
22 WAS FOUND WITH OVER 60 WOUNDS, BOTH SEVERE AND SUPERFICIAL,
23 WHICH EXTENDED OVER HER ENTIRE BODY, INCLUDING ONE
24 EXTENDING FROM THE RECTUM THROUGH THE VAGINA, AND
25 PARTIAL CUTTING HER TONGUE, THE CALIFORNIA SUPREME
26 COURT NONETHELESS HELD: "IF THE EVIDENCE SHOWED NO
27 MORE THAN THE INFILCTION OF MULTIPLE ACTS OF VIOLENCE ON
28 THE VICTIM, IT WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENT TO SHOW THAT
[REDACTED]

1 THE KILLING WAS THE RESULT OF CAREFUL THOUGHT AND
2 AND WEIGHING OF CONSIDERATION"

3 IN FAULKNER V. STATE 54 MD APP 113, 458

4 A.2d 81 (1983) THE JURY FOUND FAULKNER GUILTY OF ASSAULT
5 WITH INTENT TO MURDER AND RELATED HANDGUN OFFENSES.
6 THE COURT OF SPECIAL APPEALS REVERSED, HOLDING THAT THE
7 TRIAL COURT ERRED IN REFUSING TO INSTRUCT THE JURY AS TO
8 THE DEFENSE OF IMPERFECT SELF DEFENSE. THIS COURT
9 GRANTED THE STATE'S PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO
10 ADDRESS THE IMPORTANT ISSUES PRESENTED HERE AND
11 AFFIRMED THE JUDGMENT OF THE COURT OF SPECIAL APPEALS.
12 INITIALLY, THIS HONORABLE COURT NOTED THAT THE DIFFERENCE
13 BETWEEN MURDER AND MANSLAUGHTER IS THE PRESENCE OR
14 ABSENCE OF MALICE. STATE V. WARD 284 MD 189, 195, 396
15 A.2d 1041 (1978); DAVIS V. STATE, 39 MD 355 (1874);
16 WEIGHORST V. STATE, 7 MD 442 (1855) SELF DEFENSE OPERATES
17 AS A COMPLETE DEFENSE TO EITHER MURDER OR MANSLAUGHTER
18 A SUCCESSFUL SELF-DEFENSE, THEREFORE, RESULTS IN THE
19 ALQUITTAL OF THE DEFENDANT. THIS COURT SUMMARIZED THE
20 ELEMENTS NECESSARY TO JUSTIFY A HOMICIDE, OTHER THAN
21 FELONY MURDER, ON THE BASIS OF SELF DEFENSE IN THE
22 FOLLOWING TERMS:

23 (1) THE ACCUSED MUST HAVE HAD A REASONABLE GROUNDS
24 TO BELIEVE HIMSELF IN APPARENT IMMINENT OR IMMEDIATE
25 DANGER OF DEATH OR SERIOUS BODILY HARM FROM
26 HIS ASSAILANT OR POTENTIAL ASSAILANT.

1 (2) THE ACCUSED MUST HAVE IN FACT BELIEVED
2 HIMSELF IN DANGER.
3 (3) THE ACCUSED CLAIMING THE RIGHT OF SELF
4 DEFENSE MUST NOT HAVE BEEN THE AGGRESSOR OR
5 PROVOKED THE CONFLICT; AND
6 (4) THE FORCE USED MUST HAVE NOT BEEN
7 UNREASONABLE AND EXCESSIVE, THAT IS, THE FORCE
8 MUST NOT HAVE BEEN MORE FORCE THAN THE EXIGENCY
9 DEMANDED.

10
11 IMPERFECT SELF DEFENSE, BY CONTRAST, IS NOT A
12 COMPLETE DEFENSE. ITS CHIEF CHARACTERISTIC IS THAT IT
13 OPERATES TO NEGATE MALICE, AN ELEMENT THE STATE MUST
14 PROVE TO ESTABLISH MURDER. AS A RESULT THE SUCCESSFUL
15 INVOCATION OF THIS DOCTRINE DOES NOT COMPLETELY
16 EXONERATE THE DEFENDANT BUT MITIGATES MURDER TO
17 VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER.

18 IMPERFECT SELF DEFENSE, IS DIFFERENT FROM
19 EITHER SELF DEFENSE OR THE COMMONLY RECOGNIZED
20 MITIGATION DEFENSE, BECAUSE THE DOCTRINE OF IMPERFECT
21 SELF DEFENSE HAS BEEN SUBJECTED TO DIFFERENT
22 INTERPRETATIONS AND REGARDED BY SOME COURTS AND
23 SCHOLARS AS BEING A RECENT THEORY NOT FAR ADVANCED
24 THIS COURT IN FAULKNER, GAVE A BRIEF
25 EXAMINATION OF IT'S HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT WHICH
26 HELP CLARIFY ITS NATURE AND SCOPE AND POINT OUT THE
27 DIFFERENCES, IN WHICH THE LOWER COURTS HAVE FORGOTTEN
28 THE LANDMARK CASE DECIDED NOV 24, 1984 AND ARE

1 REPETING THE PREJUDICIAL ERRORS OF THE PAST.

2 THE RUDIMENTARY PRINCIPLES OF IMPERFECT SELF
3 DEFENSE APPEARED IN A SERIES OF MANSLAUGHTER
4 STATUTES ENACTED IN ENGLAND BETWEEN 1496 AND 1547
5 THIS COURT STATED. SEE R. MORLAND, THE LAW OF HOMICIDE
6 91 (1952). ACCORDING TO PROFESSOR MORELAND, THESE
7 STATUTES REFLECTED A COMPROMISE BETWEEN MURDER AND
8 COMPLETE EXONERATION IN THOSE INSTANCES WHERE A
9 DEFENDANT'S CONDUCT WARRANTED NEITHER A MURDER
10 CONVICTION NOR ACQUITTAL. OUT OF THESE STATUTES AROSE
11 THE MITIGATING DEFENSE OF IMPERFECT SELF DEFENSE, WHICH
12 WAS PREDICATED UPON A "FEAR OF LIFE". IMPERFECT SELF DEFENSE
13 WAS APPLICABLE TO A CRIME WITHOUT PASSION SO AS TO
14 DISTINGUISH IT FROM THE MITIGATION DEFENSE FOUNDED UPON
15 HEAT OF PASSION. HOWEVER, BECAUSE THE DEFENDANT WAS
16 AT FAULT THE LAW DEMANDED THAT HE BEAR SOME CRIMINAL
17 RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE HOMICIDE ALTHOUGH HE LACKED
18 THE MENS REA FOR MURDER. PROFESSOR MORELAND PUT IT
19 THIS WAY:

20 IN EACH CASE [HOMICIDE ARISING FROM PROVOCATION (CRIME OF
21 PASSION)] THE ACCUSED MIGHT WELL BE HELD FOR MURDER
22 OR HE MIGHT BE EXCUSED BECAUSE OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR
23 COMMITTING THE CRIME; BUT THE LAW COMPROMISES, TAKES A
24 MIDDLE GROUND, AND HOLDS HIM GUILTY OF MANSLAUGHTER.
25 THUS, IN THE CASE OF IMPERFECT SELF DEFENSE, THE LAW MIGHT
26 REFUSE HIM THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLEAD SELF-DEFENSE BECAUSE
27 OF HIS FAULT AND HOLD HIM GUILTY OF MURDER, OR IT MIGHT
28 WAIVE HIS FAULT AND ALLOW HIM TO UTILIZE THE EXCUSE OF

1 SELF-DEFENSE. BALANCING THE TWO THE LAW STRIKES A
2 MIDDLE GROUND AS A MATTER OF POLICY AND RATHER
3 REASONABLY CONVICTS HIM OF VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER.

4 IN CONCERT WITH THE ABOVE, PROFESSOR PERKINS
5 RECOGNIZED THAT MANSLAUGHTER IS A "CATCH-ALL" CONCEPT
6 THAT ENCOMPASSES A VARIETY OF HOMICIDES THAT ARE
7 "NEITHER MURDER NOR INNOCENT." R. PERKINS CRIMINAL LAW
8 69 (2d ed. 1969). IN ELABORATING UPON THIS PROPOSITION,
9 PROFESSOR PERKINS EXPLAINED:

10 SINCE MANSLAUGHTER IS A "CATCH ALL" CONCEPT, COVERING
11 ALL HOMICIDES WHICH ARE NEITHER MURDER NOR INNOCENT
12 IT LOGICALLY INCLUDES SOME KILLINGS INVOLVING OTHER
13 TYPES OF MITIGATION, AND SUCH IS THE RULE OF THE
14 COMMON LAW. FOR EXAMPLE, IF ONE MAN KILLS ANOTHER
15 INTENTIONALLY, UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND THE
16 SCOPE OF INNOCENT HOMICIDE, THE FACTS MAY COME
17 SO CLOSE TO JUSTIFICATION OR EXCUSE THAT THE KILLING
18 WILL BE CLASSED AS VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER RATHER
19 THAN MURDER. "IT IS NOT ALWAYS NECESSARY TO SHOW
20 THAT THE KILLING WAS DONE IN THE HEAT OF PASSION, TO
21 REDUCE THE CRIME TO MANSLAUGHTER." AND THE
22 THE ARKANSAS COURT, "FOR WHERE THE KILLING WAS DONE
23 BECAUSE THE SLAYER BELIEVES THAT HE IS IN GREAT
24 DANGER, BUT THE FACTS DO NOT WARRANT SUCH A BELIEF, IT
25 MAY BE MURDER OR MANSLAUGHTER ACCORDING TO THE
26 CIRCUMSTANCES EVEN THOUGH THERE BE NO PASSION."

1 THE DOCTRINE OF IMPERFECT SELF DEFENSE GAINED
2 A FOOTHOLD IN THE UNITED STATES IN THE LATE 1800'S. THE
3 THE "CORNERSTONE" CASE FOR THIS DEFENSE IS AN 1882
4 DECISION BY THE COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS OF TEXAS:
5 REED V. STATE, 11 TEX. CRIM. APP. 509 (1882). IN

6 DISCUSSING THE DOCTRINE THE REED COURT REMARKED:

7 IT [SELF DEFENSE] MAY BE DIVIDED INTO TWO GENERAL
8 CLASSES. TO WIT, PERFECT AND IMPERFECT RIGHT OF SELF
9 DEFENSE ... IF, HOWEVER, [THE DEFENDANT] WAS IN THE
10 WRONG, - IF HE WAS HIMSELF VIOLATING OR IN THE ACT OF
11 VIOLATING THE LAW, - AND ON ACCOUNT OF HIS OWN WRONG
12 WAS PLACED IN A SITUATION WHEREIN IT BECAME
13 NECESSARY FOR HIM TO DEFEND HIMSELF AGAINST AN
14 ATTACK MADE UPON HIMSELF WHICH WAS SUPERINDUCED
15 OR CREATED BY HIS OWN WRONG. SUCH A STATE OF CASE
16 MAY BE SAID TO ILLUSTRATE AND DETERMINE WHAT IN LAW
17 WOULD BE DENOMINATED THE IMPERFECT RIGHT OF SELF-
18 DEFENSE. WHENEVER A PARTY BY HIS OWN WRONGFUL ACT
19 PRODUCES A CONDITION OF THINGS WHEREIN IT BECOMES
20 NECESSARY FOR HIS OWN SAFETY THAT HE SHOULD
21 TAKE LIFE OR DO SERIOUS BODILY HARM, THEN INDEED
22 THE LAW WISELY IMPUTES TO HIM HIS OWN WRONG AND ITS
23 CONSEQUENCES TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY MAY AND SHOULD
24 BE CONSIDERED IN DETERMINING THE GRADE OF OFFENSE
25 WHICH BUT FOR SUCH ACTS WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN
26 OCCASIONED.

27 *Id* at 517-18. SHORTLY AFTER REED, COURTS FASHIONED
28 THREE VARIATIONS OF THE DOCTRINE.

1 FIRST, SOME COURTS INDICATED THAT THE DOCTRINE
2 WOULD APPLY WHERE THE HOMICIDE WOULD FAIL WITHIN
3 THE PERFECT SELF DEFENSE DOCTRINE BUT FOR THE FAULT
4 OF THE DEFENDANT IN PROVOKING OR INITIATING THE
5 DIFFICULTY AT THE NON-DEADLY FORCE LEVEL E.G.

6 ALLISON V. STATE 74 ARK. 444, 86 S.W. 409 (1905) REED V.
7 STATE, SUPRA; STATE V. FLORY 40 WYO 184 276 P. 458 (1929)

8 SECOND, THE COURTS NOTED THAT THE DOCTRINE
9 WOULD APPLY WHEN THE DEFENDANT COMMITTED A
10 HOMICIDE BECAUSE OF AN HONEST BUT UNREASONABLE
11 BELIEF THAT HE WAS ABOUT TO SUFFER DEATH OR SERIOUS
12 BODILY HARM, E.G. ALLISON V. STATE SUPRA; STATE V. THOMAS
13 184 N.C. 757, 114 S.E. 834 (1922)

14 THIRD OTHER COURTS RECOGNIZED THE DOCTRINE
15 WHEN THE DEFENDANT USED UNREASONABLE FORCE IN
16 DEFENDING HIMSELF AND AS A RESULT KILLED HIS
17 OPPONENT SEE E.G. STATE V. CLARK, 69 KAN 576, 77 P. 287
18 (1904).

19 SINCE THE ACCEPTANCE OF THIS DOCTRINE BY
20 SEVERAL JURISDICTIONS DURING THE LATE 1800'S AND
21 EARLY 1900'S COMPARATIVELY FEW MODERN JURISDICTIONS
22 HAVE ANALYZED THE DOCTRINE. OF THOSE JURISDICTIONS
23 THAT HAVE CONSIDERED THE DOCTRINE IN RECENT TIMES
24 HOWEVER, SEVERAL HAVE ADOPTED THE HONEST BUT
25 UNREASONABLE BELIEF VARIATION OF THE IMPERFECT
26 SELF DEFENSE DOCTRINE. YET REFUSE TO INSTRUCT UPON
27 THE DOCTRINE DUE TO A SUBJECTIVE VIEW OF THE CASE
28 ITSELF.

1 FOR EXAMPLE WHEN THE JUDGE STATED:

2 'I' THINK THAT THE EVIDENCE THAT
3 HAS BEEN PRESENTED THROUGHOUT
4 THIS TRIAL SUPPORTS A LOT OF
5 INSTRUCTION... BUT ONE INSTRUCTION
6 IT DOES NOT SUPPORT IN "MY ESTIMATION"
7 IS THE INSTRUCTION ON IMPERFECT
8 SELF-DEFENSE.

9 HE APPLIED HIS OWN ESTIMATION SUBJECTIVELY
10 THUS RELEAVING THE PROSECUTION OF ITS BURDEN OF
11 PROVEING THAT IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE DID NOT
12 EXIST. AND COMPOUNDED THE ERROR BY REMOVING
13 FROM THE JURYS CONSIDERATION HUMPHRIES DEFENSE
14 ON IMPERFECT SELF DEFENSE. IN OTHER WORDS THE
15 JUDGE TELLING HUMPHRIES HE DID NOT PROVE TO THE
16 COURT IN HIS "ESTIMATION" THAT IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE
17 EXISTED WAS AN INCORRECT APPLICATION OF THE LAW
18 AND PREJUDICIAL ERROR. AS THE CORRECT THING TO
19 DO WAS INFORM THE PROSECUTION THAT IT WAS THEIR
20 BURDEN TO PROVE IT DID NOT EXIST THE COURT SHIFTED
21 THE BURDEN.

22 THIS COURT STATED THAT THE SUPREME COURT OF
23 CALIFORNIA IN PEOPLE V. FLANNELL: 25 CAL. 3d 668. 603
24 P.2d 1 160 CAL. Rptr 84 (1979) SOUGHT TO ELIMINATE
25 THE "OBFUSCATION BY INFREQUENT REFERENCE AND
26 INADEQUATE ELUCIDATION" OF WHAT IT CHARACTERIZED
27 AS A UNIQUIE RULE Id 25 CAL. 3d at 681. 603 P.2d at 8160
28 CAL. Rptr at 91. CONSISTENT WITH PROFESSOR MORELANDS

1 VIEW: THE FLANNEL COURT OBSERVED THAT THE UNREASONABLE
2 BELIEF THEORY OF IMPERFECT SELF-DEFENSE IS NOT
3 LIMITED BY OR BOUND UP WITH THE CONCEPT OF THE
4 MITIGATING DEFENSE OF HEAT OF PASSION.

5 IN ADDITION, THE COURT EXPLAINED THAT THE
6 REASONABleness OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S HONEST BELIEF
7 THAT HE NEEDS TO REPEL IMMINENT PERIL OR BODILY
8 INJURY SIMPLY GOES TO THE JUSTIFICATION FOR THE
9 HOMICIDE. MOREOVER, THE FLANNEL COURT EMPHASIZED THE
10 WEIGHING OF COMPETING INTERESTS IN DETERMINING THE
11 APPLICABILITY OF THIS MITIGATION DEFENSE. IN WRITING
12 FOR THE COURT, JUSTICE TOBRINGER OBSERVED:

13 [T]HE STATE HAS NO LEGITIMATE INTEREST IN OBTAINING
14 A CONVICTION OF MURDER WHEN, BY VIRTUE OF DEFEN-
15 DANT'S UNREASONABLE BELIEF, THE JURY ENTERTAINS
16 A REASONABLE DOUBT WHETHER DEFENDANT HARBORED
17 MALICE. LIKEWISE, A DEFENDANT HAS NO LEGITIMATE
18 INTEREST IN COMPLETE EXONERATION WHEN ACTING OUTSIDE
19 THE RANGE OF REASONABLE BEHAVIOR. THE VICE IS THE
20 ELEMENT OF MALICE; IN ITS ABSENCE THE LEVEL OF
21 GUILT MUST DECLINE. Id 25 CAL. 3d at 680, 603 P.2d
22 at 7, 160 CAL Rptr at 90. THIS REASONING IS PERSUASIVE
23 BECAUSE IT RECOGNIZES THAT A DEFENDANT'S CULPABILITY FOR
24 A HOMICIDE BE MITIGATED WHEN HE LACKS THE REQUISITE
25 MENS REA FOR THE OFFENSE OF MURDER. THE TRIAL COURT
26 HAS DEPARTED FROM THIS REASONING AND CERTIORARI
27 SHOULD GRANTED TO CONSIDER THE SUBSTANTIAL
28 CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE PETITION.

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F.

DOES THE NINTH CIRCUIT COURT
OF APPEALS HAVE INHERENT
AUTHORITY TO DEEM HIS REQUEST
FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPEALABILITY
AS A REQUEST FOR EXTENTION OF
TIME.

8 THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL ARGUED THAT
9 THE REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPEALABILITY (COA)
10 WAS SIX DAY'S LATE AND TIME BARED.

11 THE PETITIONER EXPLAINED TO THE COURT THAT
12 HE WAS UNABLE TO TIMELY FILE DUE TO (1) HE DID NOT
13 RECEIVE THE MAY 23, 2019 DISTRICT COURTS ORDER UNTIL
14 JUNE 3, 2019 (12 DAYS LATER) AND ON GOOD FAITH
15 AND BELIEF THAT HE HAD 30 DAYS FROM JUNE 3, 2019
16 TO FILE. (2) CALIFORNIA SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT
17 FACILITY WAS SUBJECTED TO NUMEROUS LOCKDOWN
18 THAT CAUSED NUMEROUS DISRUPTIONS WITHIN THE
19 FACILITY THAT ALSO PREVENTED ACCESS TO THE LAW
20 LIBRARY. AND (3) THE PHOTOCOPIER IN THE FACILITY
21 WAS OUT OF ORDER FROM MAY THROUGH JULY. ALL
22 OF WHICH WERE CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND PETITIONERS
23 CONTROL. THE LIBRARY TECH LYNETTA LIMA FILED
24 A DECLARATION STATING THAT SHE HAD A SYSTEM IN
25 PLACE. SEE APPENDIX D ALTHOUGH THIS DECLARATION
26 WAS THE RESULT OF PERJURY. DURING THE TIME THE
27 PETITIONER WAS DENIED ACCESS TO THE LAW LIBRARY
28 LYNETTA LIMA WAS ALREADY UNDER A COVERT INVESTIGATION

1 FOR FALSIFICATION OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS, INTRODUCING
2 A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE (HEROIN) INTO THE FACILITY
3 WITH INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE INTRODUCTION OF CELL
4 PHONES. AND HAVING SEXUAL RELATIONS WITH INMATES
5 FOR MONETARY GAIN. IT WAS DETERMINED THAT SHE
6 WOULD CALL INMATES TO THE LAW LIBRARY IN ORDER TO
7 TO FACILITATE HER ILLEGAL ACTIVITY SHORTLY AFTER
8 SHE SIGNED THE DECLARATION SHE WAS ARRESTED BY
9 THE INSTITUTIONAL SECURITY SQUAD INMATE WRIGHT WHO
10 SHE CALLED TO THE LAW LIBRARY EVERY DAY AND HAD A
11 CONTINUING RELATIONSHIP WITH WAS ALSO ARRESTED AND
12 E-MAILS LOCATED IN INMATE WRIGHT'S TABLET SHOWED
13 NUMEROUS MONEY TRANSACTION. ONE OF HER CLERKS
14 INMATE SHARRIFF WHO WAS ALSO A MAJOR PARTICIPANT
15 COULD NOT PRODUCE ANYMORE DRUGS TO INMATES NOR
16 COULD HE PROVIDE THEM WITH A REFUND AND TO PROTECT
17 HIS OWN LIFE BECAME A CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT FOR
18 THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND
19 REHABILITATION AND WAS MOVED TO A SECURE LOCATION

20 A SIX DAY DELAY IN THE FILING A COA
21 WAS NOT EXCESSIVE NOR WOULD IT PREJUDICE THE STATE
22 NOW THE LAW LIBRARY IS ONLY OPEN TWO DAYS A WEEK
23 DUE TO THE ABOVE AND THERE ARE STILL LOCKDOWNS IN
24 PLACE DUE TWO SEARCHES FOR CONTRABAND AND THE
25 MURDER OF TWO INMATES WHICH GAINED WIDE NEWS
26 COVERAGE.

27 THIS COURT HAS LONG HELD THAT A DEFENDANT/
28 RESPONDENT IS ESTOPPED TO ASSERT A DEFENSE OF THE

1 STATUTE OF LIMITATION WHEN THE EXPIRATION OF THE STATUTE
2 IS DUE TO CONDUCT BY THE DEFENDANT/RESPONDENT INDUCING
3 THE PETITIONER TO DELAY THE FILING OF THE ACTION.

4 LYNETTA LIMA'S DECLARATION WAS A FRAUD
5 UPON THE COURT AS AN INTENTIONAL MISREPRESENTATION.
6 DECEIT AND CONCEALMENT OF MATERIAL FACTS KNOWN TO
7 LYNETTA LIMA WITH THE INTENTION ON HER PART TO
8 THEREBY DEPRIVE HUMPHRIES OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT
9 RIGHT TO ACCESS THE COURT. AND AMOUNTED TO
10 OPPRESSION IT WAS DESPICABLE CONDUCT THAT SHE WAS
11 INVOLVED IN THAT SUBJECTED HUMPHRIES TO CRUEL AND
12 UNJUST HARSHSHIP IN CONCIOUS DISREGARD OF HUMPHRIES
13 RIGHTS AND IT WAS DONE WITH MALICE, INTENDED TO
14 CAUSE INJURY AND CARRIED ON WITH A WILLFUL AND
15 CONSCIOUS DISREGARD OF THE RIGHTS AND SAFETY OF OTHERS

16 THIS COURT HAS CONSISTENTLY HELD "THE
17 INHERENT POWER OF THE COURT EXTENDS BEYOND THOSE POWERS
18 SPECIFICALLY CREATED BY STATUTE OR RULE, AND ENCOMPASSES
19 THE POWER TO SANCTION MISCONDUCT BY THE ATTORNEYS OR
20 PARTIES BEFORE THE COURT. CHAMBERS V. NASCO INC.
21 501 U.S. 32, 44-45 (1991) RECOGNIZING THAT FEDERAL
22 COURTS HAVE INHERENT POWER "TO FASHION AN APPROPRIATE
23 SANCTION FOR CONDUCT WHICH ABUSES THE JUDICIAL
24 PROCESS." SANCTIONS PURSUANT TO A COURT'S INHERENT
25 AUTHORITY ARE APPROPRIATE UPON A FINDING OF RECKLESSNESS
26 WHEN COMBINED WITH AN ADDITIONAL FACTOR SUCH AS
27 FRIVOLOUSNESS, HARASSMENT OR AN IMPROPER PURPOSE.

CONCLUSION

The petition for a writ of certiorari should be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

FELTON HUMPHRIES JR.

Date: FEBRUARY 1, 2020