

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA**

Electronically Filed  
Oct 17 2013 10:30 a.m.  
Tracie K. Lindeman  
Clerk of Supreme Court

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JOSEPH HENDERSON,

Appellant,

vs.

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Respondent.

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Docket No. 62629

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Appeal from an Order Denying  
Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-Conviction)  
Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County  
The Honorable Abbi Silver, District Judge  
District Court No. C-05-212968-1

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**APPELLANT'S APPENDIX VOL. 1**

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JULIAN GREGORY, ESQ.  
Nevada Bar No. 11978  
julian@grassodefense.com  
**LAW OFFICE OF GABRIEL L. GRASSO, P.C.**  
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Attorneys for Joseph Henderson

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**ALPHABETICAL INDEX OF APPENDIX**

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Transcript: Evidentiary Hearing	2	68-129	10/22/2012
Transcript: Sentencing	1	15-41	08/28/2008

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on October 16, 2013, I served the foregoing document via the Nevada Supreme Court's eFlex system to the following:

**Name**

**Address**

Steven B. Wolfson, Esq.  
Steven S. Owens, Esq.  
Clark County District Attorney's Office

200 Lewis Ave.  
Las Vegas, NV 89155

Catherine Cortez Masto  
Nevada Attorney General's Office

100 N. Carson St.  
Carson City, NV 89701

/s/ Julian Gregory

JULIAN GREGORY, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 11978

**LAW OFFICE OF GABRIEL L. GRASSO, P.C.**

9525 Hillwood Drive, Suite #190

Las Vegas, NV 89134

(702) 868-8866

Attorneys for Joseph Henderson

**AFFIRMATION**

Pursuant to NRS 239B.030

The undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding document does not contain the social security number of any person.

/s/ Julian Gregory

Julian Gregory, Esq.

10-16-13

Date

W. 2005

93

SEARCH WARRANT

FILED

APR 1 2 39 PM '05

JUSTICE COURT  
BY LAS VEGAS  
DEPUTY

STATE OF NEVADA )

) ss:

HENDERSON, JOSEPH ALEXANDER

COUNTY OF CLARK )

ID# 1502730

The State of Nevada, to any Peace Officer in the County of Clark. Proof by Affidavit having been made before me by Detective M. Jeffries, said Affidavit attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, that there is probable cause to believe that certain property, namely, buccal swab from the person of Henderson, Joseph Alexander, who is presently located at: Clark County Detention Center (CCDC) 330 South Casino Center, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101, and as I am satisfied that there is probable cause to obtain said buccal swab from the person of Henderson, Joseph Alexander for issuance of the Search Warrant. The affidavit not being attached since ordered sealed by the court.

You are hereby commanded to search forthwith said premises for said property, serving this warrant at any time day or night, and if the property there to seize it, prepare a written inventory of the property seized and make a return for me within ten days.

DATED this 17th day of March, 2005.

CERTIFIED COPY

The document to which this certificate is attached is a full, true and correct copy of the original on file and of record in Justice Court of Las Vegas Township, in and for the County of Clark, State of Nevada.

By: VIT Deputy  
Date: 4-1-05

William D Jansen  
Judge

1:25 PM

## APPLICATION AND AFFIDAVIT FOR SEARCH WARRANT

FILED

APR 1 2 39 PM '05

JUDGE  
CLERK  
VEGAS, NEVADA

DEPUTY

STATE OF NEVADA ) HENDERSON, JOSEPH ALEXANDER  
                          ) ss: [REDACTED]  
COUNTY OF CLARK ) ID # 1502730

M. Jeffries, being first duly sworn deposes and states that he is the Affiant and is a Detective with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (hereinafter referred to as LVMPD) presently assigned to the Crimes Against Youth & Family, Sexual Assault Detail. That your Affiant has been employed with the LVMPD for the past 8 ½ years and has been assigned to the Crimes Against Youth & Family, Sexual Assault Detail for the past 1 ½ years.

There is probable cause to believe that certain property hereinafter described will be found on the following described person, to-wit:

HENDERSON, JOSEPH ALEXANDER, ID# 1502730, SS# [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], DOB: 05-16-1970, RC-B, SX-M, HT-6'0, WT-200, HR-BLK, EY-BRO.

HENDERSON, JOSEPH ALEXANDER can presently be found at CCDC, (Clark County Detention Center) 330 South Casino Center, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101.

Your Affiant believes that the DNA sample sought to be obtained would, when submitted to laboratory analysis, disclose the presence of evidence tending to demonstrate the criminal offenses of Sexual Assault and/or Attempt Sexual Assault in violation of NRS 200.364, 200.366, and 193.330 which has been committed by the Defendant from whom the samples will be drawn.

**Search Warrant**  
**HENDERSON, JOSEPH ALEXANDER**

In support of your Affiant's assertion to constitute the existence of probable cause, the following facts are offered:

That your Affiant developed the following facts in the course of the investigation of said crime, to-wit:

On September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2004 between the hours of 0000 hours and 0125 hours, Eric Bernzweig and Julie Kim became the victims of HOME INVASION, BURGLARY, KIDNAP, SEXUAL ASSAULT, ROBBERY WITH A DEADLY WEAPON, AND BATTERY WITH A DEADLY WEAPON. Bernzweig and Kim were in their bedroom preparing to go to sleep. A white male adult rang the doorbell. Bernzweig answered the door, the unknown male told Bernzweig that his keys had been accidentally dropped over his block wall into his backyard. After Bernzweig had looked briefly in his back yard for the keys and was unable to find them he allowed the male to enter his home. During the search for the keys, two other suspects entered the home wearing masks, possessing firearms with laser (red) sights. The two masked suspects were described as black males. All three suspects ordered Bernzweig and Kim to follow their instructions, which included tying up both victims and moving Bernzweig by force up stairs. Suspects asked both victims where the cash and safe were located. One of the masked suspects, described as being the larger of the two black males, approximately 5'8", 210 lbs, began to fondle victim,

**Search Warrant**  
**HENDERSON, JOSEPH ALEXANDER**

Kim over her body. He then exposed her breasts and placed his mouth on her nipple, and proceeded to sexually assault her by penetrating her vagina with his penis. The suspect then moved victim Kim upstairs to the master bedroom, where he proceeded to sexually assault her again penetrating her vagina with his penis while tied up. Bernzweig had tried to untie himself in an attempt to escape and check on Kim's welfare as they had been separated. Bernzweig, subsequently was struck over the head and pistol whipped down to the floor causing injury. Shortly after Bernzweig was lying on the floor bleeding from the head all three suspects left in an unknown direction. Kim was able to free herself then rendered aid to Bernzweig and called 911. The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) arrived and took both victims to UMC, filing a police report under event # 040903-0152. A sexual assault exam was performed on victim Julie Kim by S.A.N.E. Nurse L. Ebbert. During forensic examination of the collected evidence, Criminalist David Welch detected foreign male DNA on breast swabs of listed victim Julie Kim. On February 16, 2005, I, Detective Jeffries was notified by Kathy Guenther in DNA Database. She informed me that there was a CODIS (Combined DNA Index System) match to CADOJ (California Department of Justice) Offender Joseph Henderson. The DNA was a positive match to the breast swabs obtained during the sexual assault exam from victim Julie Kim.

**Search Warrant  
HENDERSON, JOSEPH ALEXANDER**

The aforementioned information is based upon your Affiant's personal knowledge or reports or witness statements generated during the course of the aforementioned investigation.

Your Affiant is seeking Court authorization to obtain a buccal swab for the identification of DNA from the body of HENDERSON, JOSEPH ALEXANDER. Your Affiant is aware that HENDERSON, JOSEPH ALEXANDER can presently be found at Clark County Detention Center (CCDC), 330 South Casino Center, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101.

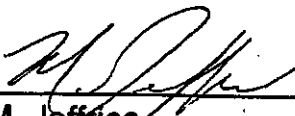
**Search Warrant**  
**HENDERSON, JOSEPH ALEXANDER**

Wherefore, your Affiant requests that a Search Warrant be issued directing a search for and seizure of the aforementioned item at the location set forth herein, requesting that this warrant be ordered to be served at any time of the day or night. Any delay in searching and seizing the described buccal swab may result in the delaying of the perpetrator's identity, and it is my experience that the sooner leads can be obtained and followed, the better the chance of identifying the perpetrator.

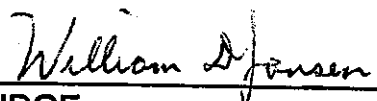
In my experience, it is possible- though rare- that the subject of this search may refuse to cooperate in the manner(s) necessary to collect the biological evidence pursuant to this warrant. I therefore request that if necessary to collect the biological evidence pursuant to this warrant. I therefore request that if necessary myself and/or other police officers may use the minimum amount of force necessary to restrain the subject and obtain the samples in the safest and most humane manner possible.

It is further requested that this declaration be sealed by the order of this court due to the following reasons: There is currently an ongoing investigation involving multiple suspects believed to be connected to this incident. Should the facts herein become known the ongoing investigation would be jeopardized.

**Search Warrant**  
**HENDERSON, JOSEPH ALEXANDER**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
M. Jeffries

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN to before me this 17th day of March, 2005.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE

**CERTIFIED COPY**

The document to which this certificate is attached is a full, true and correct copy of the original on file and of record in Justice Court of Las Vegas Township, in and for the County of Clark, State of Nevada.

By:  Deputy  
Date: 4-1-05

ORIGINAL

1 INFO  
2 DAVID ROGER  
3 Clark County District Attorney  
4 Nevada Bar #002781  
5 STACY KOLLINS  
6 Chief Deputy District Attorney  
7 Nevada Bar #005391  
8 200 South Third Street  
9 Las Vegas, Nevada 89155-2212  
10 (702) 455-4711  
11 Attorney for Plaintiff

FILED IN OPEN COURT

JUN 23 2008

20

CHARLES J. SHORT  
CLERK OF THE COURT

*Linda Skinner*  
LINDA SKINNER DEPUTY

DISTRICT COURT  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

10 THE STATE OF NEVADA, )

11 Plaintiff, )

12 -vs- )

13 JOSEPH ALEXANDER HENDERSON, )  
14 #1502730 )

15 Defendant. )

Case No: C212968  
Dept No: XIV

AMENDED  
INFORMATION

16 STATE OF NEVADA }  
17 COUNTY OF CLARK } ss.

18 DAVID ROGER, District Attorney within and for the County of Clark, State of  
19 Nevada, in the name and by the authority of the State of Nevada, informs the Court:

20 That JOSEPH ALEXANDER HENDERSON, the Defendant above named, having  
21 committed the crimes of CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT BURGLARY (Gross  
22 Misdemeanor - NRS 199.480, 205.060); BURGLARY WHILE IN POSSESSION OF A  
23 FIREARM (Felony - NRS 205.060); CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT FIRST DEGREE  
24 KIDNAPPING (Felony - NRS 199.480, 200.310, 200.320); FIRST DEGREE  
25 KIDNAPPING WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON (Felony - NRS 200.310,  
26 200.320, 193.165); CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT SEXUAL ASSAULT (Felony - NRS  
27 199.480, 200.364, 200.366); SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH USE OF A DEADLY  
28 WEAPON (Felony - NRS 200.364, 200.366, 193.165); CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT

1 **ROBBERY (Felony - NRS 199.480, 200.380); ROBBERY WITH USE OF A DEADLY**  
2 **WEAPON (Felony - NRS 200.380, 193.165); OPEN OR GROSS LEWDNESS (Gross**  
3 **Misdemeanor - NRS 201.210); and BATTERY WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON**  
4 **RESULTING IN SUBSTANTIAL BODILY HARM (Felony - NRS 200.481.2e), on or**  
5 **about the 3rd day of September, 2004, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, contrary**  
6 **to the form, force and effect of statutes in such cases made and provided, and against the**  
7 **peace and dignity of the State of Nevada,**

8 **COUNT 1 - CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT BURGLARY**

9 did then and there meet with Unknown Individuals and between themselves, and each  
10 of them with the other, wilfully and unlawfully conspire and agree to commit the crime of  
11 burglary, and in furtherance of said conspiracy, Defendant did commit the acts as set forth in  
12 Count 2, said acts being incorporated by this reference as though fully set forth herein.

13 **COUNT 2 - BURGLARY WHILE IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM**

14 did then and there wilfully, unlawfully, and feloniously enter, while in possession of a  
15 firearm, and with intent to commit larceny and/or robbery and/or sexual assault, that certain  
16 building occupied by JULIE KIM and/or ERIC BERNZWEIG, located at 7833 Lonesome  
17 Harbor, Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada.

18 **COUNT 3 - CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT FIRST DEGREE KIDNAPPING**

19 did then and there meet with unknown individuals and between themselves, and each  
20 of them with the other, wilfully, unlawfully, and feloniously conspire and agree to commit  
21 the crime of first degree kidnapping, and in furtherance of said conspiracy, Defendant did  
22 commit the acts as set forth in Counts 4 and 5, said acts being incorporated by this reference  
23 as though fully set forth herein.

24 **COUNT 4 - FIRST DEGREE KIDNAPPING WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON**

25 did wilfully, unlawfully, feloniously, and without authority of law, seize, confine,  
26 inveigle, entice, decoy, abduct, conceal, kidnap, or carry away JULIE KIM, a human being,  
27 with the intent to hold or detain the said JULIE KIM against her will, and without her  
28 consent, for the purpose of committing sexual assault and/or robbery, said Defendant using a

1 deadly weapon, to-wit: a firearm, during the commission of said crime, the Defendant being  
2 responsible under one or more of the following principles of criminal liability; to-wit: (1) by  
3 the Defendant directly committing the acts set forth; and/or (2) the Defendant and Unknown  
4 Individuals conspiring with each other to commit the offense of First Degree Kidnapping  
5 with Use of a Deadly Weapon whereby the defendant and Unknown Individuals are each  
6 vicariously liable for the crimes intended; and/or (2) the Defendant and Unknown  
7 Individuals aiding or abetting in the commission of the crime by accompanying each other  
8 to the crime scene where (they bound Julie Kim at gunpoint and separated her from Eric  
9 Bernzweig whereupon she was sexually assaulted and/or robbed, the Defendant and  
10 Unknown Individuals encouraging one another throughout by actions and words; acting in  
11 concert throughout and fleeing the scene together.

12 COUNT 5 - FIRST DEGREE KIDNAPPING WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON

13 did wilfully, unlawfully, feloniously, and without authority of law, seize, confine,  
14 inveigle, entice, decoy, abduct, conceal, kidnap, or carry away ERIC BERNZWEIG, a  
15 human being, with the intent to hold or detain the said ERIC BERNZWEIG against his will,  
16 and without his consent, for the purpose of committing robbery, said Defendant using a  
17 deadly weapon, to-wit: a firearm, during the commission of said crime, the Defendant being  
18 responsible under one or more of the following principles of criminal liability; to-wit: (1) by  
19 the Defendant directly committing the acts set forth; and/or (2) the Defendant and Unknown  
20 Individuals conspiring with each other to commit the offense of First Degree Kidnapping  
21 with Use of a Deadly Weapon whereby the defendant and Unknown Individuals are each  
22 vicariously liable for the crimes intended; and/or (2) the Defendant and Unknown  
23 Individuals aiding or abetting in the commission of the crime by accompanying each other  
24 to the crime scene where they bound Eric Bernzweig at gunpoint and separated him from  
25 Julie Kim whereupon he was robbed, the Defendant and Unknown Individual encouraging  
26 one another throughout by actions and words; acting in concert throughout and fleeing the  
27 scene together.

28 //

1 COUNT 6 - CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT SEXUAL ASSAULT

2 did then and there meet with unknown individuals and between themselves, and each  
3 of them with the other, wilfully, unlawfully, and feloniously conspire and agree to commit  
4 the crime of sexual assault, and in furtherance of said conspiracy, Defendant did commit the  
5 acts as set forth in Counts 7, and 8, said acts being incorporated by this reference as though  
6 fully set forth herein.

7 COUNT 7 - SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON

8 did then and there wilfully, unlawfully, and feloniously sexually assault and subject  
9 JULIE KIM, a female person, to sexual penetration, to-wit: sexual intercourse, by placing  
10 his penis into the genital opening of the said JULIE KIM, against her will, said Defendant  
11 using a deadly weapon, to-wit: a firearm, during the commission of said crime.

12 COUNT 8 - SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON

13 did then and there wilfully, unlawfully, and feloniously sexually assault and subject  
14 JULIE KIM, a female person, to sexual penetration, to-wit: sexual intercourse, by placing  
15 his penis into the genital opening of the said JULIE KIM, against her will, said Defendant  
16 using a deadly weapon, to-wit: a firearm, during the commission of said crime.

17 COUNT 9 - SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON

18 did then and there wilfully, unlawfully, and feloniously sexually assault and subject  
19 JULIE KIM, a female person, to sexual penetration, to-wit: digital penetration, by placing  
20 his finger(s) into the genital opening of the said JULIE KIM, against her will, said Defendant  
21 using a deadly weapon, to-wit: a firearm, during the commission of said crime.

22 COUNT 10 - CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT ROBBERY

23 did then and there meet with unknown individuals and between themselves, and each  
24 of them with the other, wilfully, unlawfully, and feloniously conspire and agree to commit  
25 the crime of robbery, and in furtherance of said conspiracy, Defendant did commit the acts  
26 as set forth in Counts 10, and 11, said acts being incorporated by this reference as though  
27 fully set forth herein.

28 //

1 COUNT 11 - ROBBERY WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON

2 did then and there wilfully, unlawfully, and feloniously take personal property, to-wit:  
3 lawful money of the United States, from the person of JULIE KIM, or in her presence, by  
4 means of force or violence or fear of injury to, and without the consent and against the will  
5 of the said JULIE KIM, said Defendant using a deadly weapon, to-wit: a firearm, during the  
6 commission of said crime, the Defendant being responsible under one or more of the  
7 following principles of criminal liability; to-wit: (1) by the Defendant directly committing  
8 the acts set forth; and/or (2) the Defendant and Unknown Individuals conspiring with each  
9 other to commit the offense of Robbery with Use of a Deadly Weapon whereby the  
10 defendant and Unknown Individuals are each vicariously liable for the reasonably  
11 foreseeable acts of the other conspirators when the acts were in furtherance of the  
12 conspiracy; and/or (2) the Defendant and Unknown Individuals aiding or abetting in the  
13 commission of the crime by accompanying each other to the crime scene where they bound  
14 Julie Kim at gunpoint and separated him from Eric Bernzweig whereupon she was robbed,  
15 encouraging one another throughout by actions and words; acting in concert throughout and  
16 fleeing the scene together.

17 COUNT 12- ROBBERY WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON

18 did then and there wilfully, unlawfully, and feloniously take personal property, to-wit:  
19 lawful money of the United States, from the person of ERIC BERNZWEIG, or in his  
20 presence, by means of force or violence or fear of injury to, and without the consent and  
21 against the will of the said ERIC BERNZWEIG, said Defendant using a deadly weapon, to-  
22 wit: a firearm, during the commission of said crime, the Defendant being responsible under  
23 one or more of the following principles of criminal liability; to-wit: (1) by the Defendant  
24 directly committing the acts set forth; and/or (2) the Defendant and Unknown Individuals  
25 conspiring with each other to commit the offense of Robbery with Use of a Deadly Weapon  
26 whereby the defendant and Unknown Individuals are each vicariously liable for the  
27 reasonably foreseeable acts of the other conspirators when the acts were in furtherance of the  
28 conspiracy; and/or (2) the Defendant and Unknown Individuals aiding or abetting in the

1 commission of the crime by accompanying each other to the crime scene where they bound  
2 Eric Bernzweig at gunpoint and separated him from Julie Kim whereupon he was robbed,  
3 encouraging one another throughout by actions and words; acting in concert throughout and  
4 fleeing the scene together.

5 COUNT 13 - OPEN OR GROSS LEWDNESS

6 did then and there wilfully and unlawfully commit an act of open or gross lewdness  
7 by placing his mouth and/or tongue on the breast(s) of JULIE KIM.

8 COUNT 14 - BATTERY WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON RESULTING IN  
9 SUBSTANTIAL BODILY HARM

10 did then and there wilfully, unlawfully and feloniously use force or violence upon the  
11 person of another, to-wit: ERIC BERNZWEIG, with use of a deadly weapon, to-wit: a  
12 firearm, by striking the said ERIC BERNZWEIG on the head with said firearm, resulting in  
13 substantial bodily harm to the said ERIC BERNZWEIG.

14 DAVID ROGER  
15 DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
16 Nevada Bar #002781

17 BY

18 STACY KOLLINS  
19 Chief Deputy District Attorney  
20 Nevada Bar #005391  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

1 Names of witnesses known to the District Attorney's Office at the time of filing this  
2 Information are as follows:

3	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
4	BERCH, HENRY - LVMPD	
5	BERNZWEIG, ERIC - 3886 BILTMORE BAY, LVN 89147	
6	CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS - LVMPD RECORDS	
7	EBBERT, LINDA - UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER	
8	GUENTHER, KATHY - LVMPD P#6109	
9	JEFFRIES, MICHAEL - LVMPD P#5302	
10	KIM, JULIE - 3886 BILTMORE BAY, LVN 89147	
11	WELCH, DAVID - LVMPD P#1418	

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25 DA#05F05146X/mmw/SVU  
LVMPD EV#0409030152  
26 CONSP;BURG W/WPN;1ST  
DEG KIDNAP W/WPN;SEX  
27 ASSLT W/WPN; ROBB W/WPN;  
OG LEWD;BWDW W/SBH - GM/F  
28 (TK5)

11/11/08

FILED

Nov 7 1 11 PM '08

E. J. [Signature]  
CLERK OF THE COURT

C212968

DISTRICT COURT  
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

\*\*\*\*\*

STATE OF NEVADA, )  
 )  
Plaintiff, )  
 )  
vs. )  
 )  
JOSEPH ALEXANDER HENDERSON, )  
 )  
Defendant. )

Case No. C212968  
C213690  
Dept. XIV

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT  
OF  
SENTENCING/  
PUBLIC DEFENDER'S MOTION TO WITHDRAW DUE TO CONFLICT

BEFORE THE HONORABLE DONALD M. MOSLEY  
DISTRICT JUDGE

Taken on Thursday, August 28, 2008  
At 9:00 a.m.

APPEARANCES:

For the State: STACY L. KOLLINS, ESQ.  
Chief Deputy District Attorney  
HAGAR TRIPPIEDI, ESQ.  
Deputy District Attorney  
For the Defendant: VIOLET R. RADOSTA, ESQ.  
Deputy Public Defender

Reported by: Maureen Schorn, CCR No. 496, RPR

RECEIVED  
NOV 06 2008  
CLERK OF THE COURT

1 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA. THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2008, 9:00 A.M.

2 \* \* \* \*

3  
4 THE COURT: C212968, State versus Joseph  
5 Alexander Henderson. The record will reflect the presence  
6 of the defendant in custody. Ms. Radosta is Defense  
7 counsel, Ms. Kollins for the State. The matter is on for  
8 sentencing.

9 Are you ready to go forward, Ms. Radosta?

10 MS. RADOSTA: Yes, Your Honor. I just  
11 wanted to point out there is an error on the PSI report,  
12 but my client would still like to go forward today with  
13 sentencing.

14 MS. KOLLINS: And, Your Honor, Court's  
15 pleasure, I do have two speakers in this matter. I  
16 believe the Court has been notified. I don't know if you  
17 want to take this now. I was told it was being taken at  
18 the end of the calendar.

19 THE COURT: That would be my desire. Are  
20 you needed elsewhere, Ms. Radosta?

21 MS. RADOSTA: No, Judge.

22 THE COURT: Let's trail this. Go ahead and  
23 have a seat, Mr. Henderson.

24 MS. KOLLINS: And, Your Honor, there is a  
25 mistake in the PSI. Do you want to take that now, or do

1 you want to wait until later?

2 THE COURT: Well, is it something we can  
3 cure?

4 MS. KOLLINS: It is just by interlineation.  
5 The sentencing on the kidnapping is incorrect. It should  
6 be five to life with an equal and consecutive five to  
7 life.

8 MS. RADOSTA: Actually, it's on Page 2 as  
9 well as the recommendation. On Page 2 they list the  
10 potential penalty for first degree kidnapping with use as  
11 a minimum 15 years with the possibility of parole -- I'm  
12 sorry, possibility of parole after 15 to life being the  
13 minimum sentence.

14 And it's actually first degree kidnapping is five  
15 to life plus an equal and consecutive five to life.

16 THE COURT: We'll discuss it more fully.

17  
18 (Whereupon, the matter was trailed on the calendar.)

19  
20 THE COURT: C212968 State versus Joseph  
21 Alexander Henderson. The record will reflect the presence  
22 of Mr. Henderson in custody. Ms. Radosta is counsel for  
23 the Defense, Ms. Kollins is present for the State.

24 The matter is on for sentencing, and I would also  
25 indicate that there is a companion case, C213690, State

1       versus Joseph Henderson. There's a motion pending.

2               MS. RADOSTA: Judge, I'll be handling that  
3 as well.

4               THE COURT: Ms. Radosta will handle that as  
5 well. We will take that up after the first matter has  
6 been called here.

7               Are you ready to go forward, Ms. Radosta?

8               MS. RADOSTA: Yes, Judge.

9               THE COURT: Mr. Henderson, do you have any  
10 legal cause or reason why judgment should not be  
11 pronounced against you at this time?

12              THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

13              THE COURT: By virtue of the jury's  
14 findings, you are adjudged guilty of Counts 1 through 14.

15              The State's position, please?

16              MS. KOLLINS: Your Honor, I have a few  
17 things to say based substantially on the jury's verdict,  
18 the defendant's record, the recommendation by P and P.

19              I think probably the first observation I have to  
20 relay to the Court is this defendant's record is  
21 abhorrent. He has never successfully completed a parole  
22 or a probation period. He is a multiple time previous  
23 convicted felon, including violent offenses, including  
24 offenses with firearms.

25              I know you've read the PSI. P and P's

1 recommendation is absolutely spot-on. This man should  
2 never, ever be out in our community again.

3 Where does he go from here? Other than the  
4 crimes that were committed against Julie Kim and Eric  
5 Bernzweig, the only place he has to go is up, and that's  
6 murder. Because this is about as bad as it gets short of  
7 a homicide.

8 Julie and Eric are never going to know any  
9 tranquility in their home. They're always going to be  
10 suspicious. They're going to live with this for the rest  
11 of their life.

12 No one else in the community should ever, ever,  
13 have to endure repeated sexual assaults, being  
14 pistol-whipped, having their home invaded. No one else  
15 should ever have to do or endure what the defendant put  
16 that family through.

17 He's 38 years old now. He was afforded a fair  
18 trial, the jury made their decision. The recommendation,  
19 if you follow it, gives him 121 years and a few months on  
20 the bottom. The State thinks that's absolutely  
21 appropriate. He deserves nothing less, his record  
22 deserves nothing less, these victims deserve nothing less.

23 If this Court is bothered by the longevity of  
24 that sentence, what I would ask you to do is run every  
25 life sentence that he has been convicted of consecutively.

1           That would be Count 4, first degree kidnapping  
2 with use of a deadly weapon, five to life with a  
3 consecutive five to life.

4           Count 5, first degree kidnapping with a deadly  
5 weapon, five to life plus a consecutive five to life.

6           Counts 7, 8 and 9, each sexual assaults with a  
7 deadly weapon, ten to life plus ten to life for each one  
8 of those all to run consecutively.

9           If this Court is hesitant to follow the  
10 recommendation, which I stand here and tell you that the  
11 State believes this is absolutely appropriate given these  
12 offenses, given his record, and given his proclivity from  
13 other cases that we know.

14           He had a case where he was going around UNLV  
15 fondling young ladies. So his sexual aberrations are  
16 apparent in his history.

17           I would ask you, again, I want to reiterate the  
18 120 on the bottom is absolutely appropriate, but if this  
19 Court hesitates to do that, I would ask you for all of the  
20 life sentences to run consecutively.

21           THE COURT: All right. Now, let me get a  
22 couple of things clarified here for the edification of all  
23 present. Earlier there was mention of Count 4 and Count 5  
24 being an improper recommendation.

25           MS. KOLLINS: It is incorrect in the PSI.

1 It should be 60 months to life with an equal and  
2 consecutive 60 months to life, instead of the 180 months.

3 THE COURT: Do you concur in that,  
4 Ms. Radosta?

5 MS. RADOSTA: Yes, Judge. That, I believe,  
6 is the current -- well, it was the state of the law at the  
7 time that this crime was committed.

8 MS. KOLLINS: That is correct.

9 THE COURT: And that begs the next question  
10 I was going to ask. Do we all understand and concur that  
11 the equal and consecutive enhancement was in effect at the  
12 time of this offense?

13 MS. KOLLINS: Yes, we do, Judge.

14 THE COURT: Not to do with the statute.

15 MS. RADOSTA: Right, Judge. And I believe  
16 that the State Supreme Court has recently ruled that it's  
17 not retroactive, that the new 1 to 20 consecutive is not  
18 retroactive to the date that the deadly weapon enhancement  
19 went into effect.

20 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Henderson, is  
21 there anything you want to say before your attorney  
22 speaks?

23 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. I would  
24 like to say I maintain my innocence. I do feel sorry for  
25 Ms. Kim and her husband. I sat in the trial and heard

1 everything that happened, and I really feel sorry for them  
2 because I would not want that to happen to me.

3 And I know that the DA has a job to do, but I am  
4 innocent of this crime and I plan on proving that not  
5 today, because I was found guilty in this trial, but I'm  
6 quite sure something will come up where I can get my life  
7 back.

8 I know I have a lengthy record, but nothing like  
9 what I'm being accused of, and you've got my record right  
10 there. I haven't been a good boy, but I have never did a  
11 robbery, I have never had a robbery case, never, ever  
12 sexual assault, never, ever those type of cases with this  
13 type of severe time. Maybe a little drug cases here and  
14 there, but I never did nothing like this.

15 I mean, honestly, to be honest with you, Mosley,  
16 I got framed, I really got framed.

17 THE COURT: Who framed you?

18 THE DEFENDANT: The police framed me. I  
19 mean, either the police, somebody had to frame me. I was  
20 framed.

21 THE COURT: Ms. Kollins?

22 MS. KOLLINS: I would just remind the Court  
23 the DNA evidence in this case.

24 THE DEFENDANT: I was framed. I mean it  
25 from my heart.

1 THE COURT: Ms. Radosta?

2 MS. RADOSTA: Judge, my client Mr. Henderson  
3 did touch on one of the things that I wanted to address  
4 with Your Honor. The State said he has an abhorrent  
5 record. I would completely disagree with that statement.

6 Yes, he has four prior felonies, Judge, but we've  
7 seen much worse than these types of felonies. There is  
8 one violent felony from 18 years ago, assault with a  
9 firearm on a person in 1990.

10 Other than that, Judge, it was possession of a  
11 firearm and that was in 1995. And the two most recent  
12 felonies are both drug related in '97 and then in '99.  
13 Those are -- and that's his record.

14 Yes, an active criminal history, but it's hardly  
15 an abhorrent record, Judge, where you need to treat this  
16 case as somehow one of the worst you've ever seen, in all  
17 honesty, Judge.

18 Ms. Kollins also stated that she felt that the  
19 recommendation in this case was spot-on. Even under the  
20 old sentencing guidelines for a murder case, Judge,  
21 Ms. Kollins is recommending to this Court that you  
22 sentence my client as though he had killed three people.

23 121 years to life would be three consecutive  
24 40-to-life sentences, Judge. And while there is  
25 absolutely no getting around the fact that this was an

1   incredibly painful and life-altering experience for the  
2   victims in this case, Judge, the fact of the matter is,  
3   it's not the worst that we've all seen, it's not to the  
4   level of murder and it should not be treated in that  
5   manner.

6           This is a situation where I'm remembering the  
7   testimony correctly, although the jury did come back with  
8   the sexual assault with use of a deadly weapon, the  
9   testimony at times during the trial was that Ms. Kim  
10   didn't always necessarily know where the weapon was while  
11   the sexual assault was happening, so it's not as though  
12   the gun was being held directly to her head while this was  
13   happening.

14           And I'm certainly not suggesting to Your Honor  
15   this wasn't a horrific experience for her, but it could  
16   have been worse. And that's a hard thing to say, but it  
17   certainly could have been worse, and I would ask Your  
18   Honor to keep that in mind when making your decision in  
19   this particular case.

20           To run burglary counts consecutive to robbery  
21   counts consecutive to kidnapping counts, when there were  
22   two victims in this particular case, Judge, to run each of  
23   the -- I mean, P and P recommends of the 14 felonies and  
24   gross misdemeanors that my client was convicted of, they  
25   run ten of them consecutive to one another.

1           That's completely excessive in this particular  
2 case. There were multiple people involved in this, Your  
3 Honor, and my client on some of those counts was convicted  
4 on aiding and abetting theory. So I would ask Your Honor  
5 to also keep that in mind.

6           What I would suggest to Your Honor is to perhaps  
7 run one of the most serious counts involving Ms. Kim, the  
8 sexual assault with use of a deadly weapon, which would be  
9 a 20 to life, and one of the most serious counts involving  
10 her husband, Dr. Bernzweig, consecutive.

11           And that would be either the first degree  
12 kidnapping, which would be a ten to life, or depending on  
13 how Your Honor looks at it, the robbery with use of a  
14 deadly weapon, which would be 6 to 15, plus an equal and  
15 consecutive 6 to 15.

16           It doesn't have the life tail, but it does have  
17 more time on the bottom end. So somewhere in the  
18 neighborhood of 30 to 35 years to life would be the actual  
19 sentence, being the most straightforward way of putting  
20 it, Judge.

21           In the end, Your Honor, there is certainly no  
22 getting around, as I stated, that this was an incredibly  
23 difficult experience for the victims in this case. But  
24 that being said, part of the Court's job is to keep  
25 everything in perspective and not be persuaded by this one

1 victim's experience.

2 Mr. Henderson is not the worst of the worst, it's  
3 just that simple. He's had very little violent contact  
4 with the system prior to this, Judge, and I'd ask you to  
5 keep that in kind when you sentencing him.

6 THE COURT: Now, just so we're sure we're  
7 recommending what we intend to recommend, Ms. Kollins  
8 suggests five to life on the kidnapping, and you're  
9 suggesting ten to life.

10 MS. RADOSTA: Well, it's five to life with  
11 an equal and consecutive five to life.

12 THE COURT: Just so we understand.

13 MS. RADOSTA: And I believe Ms. Kollins, I  
14 think that's what she --

15 MS. KOLLINS: I concur the PSI is correctly  
16 written as to the first three kidnapping counts. It's  
17 five to life as required, a consecutive five to life with  
18 the weapon.

19 THE COURT: Now, incidentally, I assume that  
20 everybody did receive a Supplemental Presentence  
21 Investigation Report?

22 MS. RADOSTA: Yes, Judge. I received it  
23 this morning. Ms. Kollins gave me a copy of it.

24 MS. KOLLINS: Well, I received the original  
25 PSI yesterday that was erroneous, and I called P and P and

1 they actually edited it during the day yesterday and  
2 provided it this morning.

3 THE COURT: So we're satisfied we have the  
4 proper document?

5 MS. RADOSTA: Yes, Judge. And for the  
6 record, I did provide both the original and the  
7 supplemental to Mr. Henderson.

8 THE COURT: All right. Let's have a seat  
9 and hear from our speakers if they wish to be heard.

10 MS. KOLLINS: Mr. Bernzweig.

11

12 Whereupon,

13

**ERIC BERNZWEIG,**

14 was called as a Speaker by the State, and having been  
15 first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

16

17 THE COURT: Sir, would you state your full  
18 name, please?

19 THE SPEAKER: Eric Bernzweig,  
20 B-e-r-n-z-w-e-i-g.

21 THE COURT: Please tell us what you would  
22 have us know?

23 THE SPEAKER: I just want to take a moment  
24 to thank the Court and just say that the wheels of  
25 American justice do grind slowly, but they grind

1 correctly. And what's happened here is the correct thing  
2 and the fact that this man is guilty.

3 I've been asked to talk about the things that  
4 have personally affected me, and every single facet of my  
5 life has been affected. And the truth is that I'm a man  
6 that has always put his life off for bigger and better  
7 things, going to college, going to dental school, going to  
8 postgraduate work, starting to practice out of nowhere,  
9 leaving my family back at home to start anew in a strange  
10 land.

11 But the truth is that the best part of my life  
12 was coming. I met my future wife at that point and she  
13 was going to convert to Judaism for me. We were just  
14 weeks away. We were coming back home from San Diego on a  
15 long weekend four years almost to the day.

16 We were coming home from San Diego. We were  
17 talking about having a baby, having a big wedding, all of  
18 the things that I had always put my life off for. These  
19 were the things that the money and the success was  
20 secondary, that I should find my wife, that I should have  
21 a child.

22 But since that day that all of this happened,  
23 there is no talk of children. This man raped my wife. He  
24 beat me up, big deal. He's killed my unborn child. The  
25 truth is that my wife and I at that time were dating.

1 Everybody says when you get married it's the happiest day  
2 of your life. I found my soul mate, I really did.

3 And at this point she's not the same person that  
4 she used to be. She's never going to be the same person  
5 that I knew, the person that wanted to have a child. All  
6 of this has been for nothing.

7 The money and the success means nothing. The  
8 fact that my life and her life have been irreparably  
9 damaged because somebody wanted to come to Las Vegas and  
10 have a good time at the price of my wife.

11 You talk about a shortened sentenced, ma'am, you  
12 can come to my house and we'll give you a play-by-play and  
13 you'll tell me if you want a shortened sentence.

14 THE COURT: Sir, address me.

15 THE SPEAKER: I'm sorry, sir. The truth is  
16 that we came into court the day before court and this guy  
17 came in with an offer for a shortened plea, and he thumbed  
18 his nose at the Court. And at the last second said, no,  
19 I'll come to trial. He rolled the dice and that's what's  
20 coming to him.

21 Talk about things, this is my personal life.  
22 Money wise, the house that I had built was a dream house.  
23 We couldn't believe we found this. We had to sell it at  
24 the top of the real market, you know what's going on with  
25 real estate.

1           We had to take a \$50,000 hit because we had to  
2 tell the person coming in what had happened to us, the  
3 embarrassment. All the people that we knew and friends  
4 and the people we had made friends with now don't even  
5 speak to us. We're marked.

6           Just as this was all happening we were starting  
7 up. When I came to town I knew that I would be successful  
8 because nothing would stand in my way. I wouldn't step  
9 over anybody, but I would do what I could to make myself  
10 successful.

11           We signed a lease for a second office and you,  
12 Judge, let me talk to you directly. When you were just  
13 like me, you went to college, you went to graduate school,  
14 you didn't know if you were going to be a judge. But the  
15 truth is, you had the drive. How many judges are out  
16 there. You were at the top of your game.

17           That's where i was going until September 3rd,  
18 2004. I had it all planned. It was a plan that was going  
19 to work at the top of the economy. Now I have two offices  
20 that I can't keep on top of anymore. My life is shot.

21           Let's talk about my personal being. Health, I've  
22 put on 40 pounds since this all happened. I am now an  
23 uncontrolled diabetic and I've got high blood pressure.  
24 And the truth is that I can't give an exact date, but this  
25 has easily taken ten years off of my life with the

1 everyday stress that she and I have to go through.

2 Now even just this morning the back door was  
3 open. I can't leave the garage door open without freaking  
4 out. When you have a nice day in Las Vegas, you open the  
5 back door to get a breeze. I can't step away from the  
6 door thinking that somebody is going to come into my home  
7 and rape my wife.

8 The truth is that this is why I had a life  
9 planned. That life plan started in 1984 when I started  
10 college and continued to the day of 2004, almost to the  
11 day of starting college, 20 years. Everything has been  
12 put on hold over one stinking hour.

13 It was something that I didn't put into the  
14 equation, which was some jerk coming into my place and --  
15 whatever someone it seems to have been a targeted type of  
16 thing. What did you do to make somebody do this to you?

17 The truth is, what little I know about law, I  
18 know some. But I know an eye for eye and a tooth for a  
19 tooth. What do you pay for two lives that have been  
20 irreparably damaged?

21 THE COURT: Let me interrupt you just  
22 briefly. You mentioned that you are looked down upon by  
23 your friends. That's my word, something of that nature.  
24 Let me make an observation here.

25 I heard the entire trial. You have nothing to be

1   ashamed of, number one. Number two, you and your wife are  
2   the victims here. Anybody worth their salt would  
3   understand that.

4           Number two, it's none of my business, I would  
5   concede that right up front, but why this would interfere  
6   with your plans to be married and have a child I do not  
7   understand. I think you might reevaluate that. You have  
8   a beautiful wife. There's no reason in the world why you  
9   couldn't be married and have a child in my judgment, for  
10   what it's worth. And, again, it's none of my business.

11           Is there anything else you want to say, sir?

12           THE SPEAKER: I just want to say that when  
13   you hear the word "predator" you think of a lion or a  
14   bear, and you consider that that predator kills to eat and  
15   feeds children. It kills to protect its children.

16           A human predator preyed on people without remorse  
17   is the truth. This guy came in knowing what he was going  
18   to do. And the fact was it was 1:00 o'clock in the  
19   morning in a private house, nothing was going to stop him.

20           Thank God that I was able to get out of my  
21   shackles, and these guys thought I was going to die  
22   because I had so much blood coming out of my head.  
23   Because the party that this guy had on my wife, I can't  
24   imagine, I can't imagine what could have been that the  
25   fact that thank goodness that he cracked my head open, his

1 friend cracked my head open. Because the party would have  
2 continued all night long in my eyes.

3 I've been told, again, this is my business, it is  
4 my business, but it's not, it's the fact of the Court,  
5 that possible sentence could be 20, 30, 40, even beyond.

6 But if you think about the numbers in 20 years,  
7 this guy is going to be 55 years old, very much able to  
8 overpower an adult, a young child or an elderly person and  
9 do what he wants.

10 In 30 years he'll be 65 years old, not a young  
11 man, but still in today's society still very, very young.  
12 He could still -- he may not be able to overpower an  
13 adult, but maybe a young child or an elderly woman or man,  
14 whatever he happens to feel like that date.

15 In 40 years he'll be 75, again, still able to  
16 overpower and trick a young child. Don't let this man  
17 out. If you would, Your Honor, just infuse a little of  
18 what we could consider a little -- well, if you could  
19 throw the book at this guy, give gavel. And if you happen  
20 to have a brick under your table there, that would be good  
21 too.

22 But the truth is that the longer this guy is put  
23 out of commission, the better.

24 THE COURT: Any questions from the State?

25 MS. KOLLINS: No, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: Defense counsel?

2 MS. RADOSTA: No, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Thank you, sir.

4 THE SPEAKER: Thank you, Your Honor.

5 MS. KOLLINS: Ms. Kim, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Very good.

7

8 Whereupon,

9

**JULIE BERNZWEIG,**

10 was called as a Speaker by the State, and having been  
11 first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

12

13 THE COURT: State your name for the record,  
14 please?

15 THE SPEAKER: Julie Bernzweig,  
16 B-e-r-n-z-w-e-i-g.

17 THE COURT: You're married?

18 THE SPEAKER: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Go ahead.

20 THE SPEAKER: I wrote a speech today, but it  
21 doesn't seem to quite cover all the phases after  
22 everything that I've heard today. Every time I come to  
23 this point I think of what happened to me four years ago,  
24 and I relive that day every single month.

25 I don't know what it's like for anybody else, but

1 how can you put a cost on your own sanity? You can go on  
2 and blame his past or his upbringing or whatever excuses  
3 you may have for him, but nothing changes the fact of what  
4 he did to me and how it's affected our lives.

5 I begged him for mercy not to do that to me, and  
6 I hope you won't give him any mercy during sentencing.  
7 I'm not happy to be here today. I wish this never would  
8 have happened to me.

9 I keep thinking it just can't be, I've always  
10 lived my life so carefully to avoid these kinds of things,  
11 and I never would have thought it would have happened to  
12 me in my own home.

13 And it's true I'll never be what I was, I'll  
14 never be trustworthy, I'll never have peace. But,  
15 hopefully, after today I will have some sort of closure  
16 knowing that he's going to be put away forever. Thank  
17 you.

18 THE COURT: Questions from the State?

19 MS. KOLLINS: No, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Defense counsel?

21 MS. RADOSTA: No.

22 THE COURT: Thank you. All right. Well,  
23 it's clear that the recommendation is going to be followed  
24 here.

25 Count 1, conspiracy to commit robbery, a gross

1 misdemeanor, in accordance with the law of the State of  
2 Nevada, 12 months in the County Jail.

3 Count 2, burglary while in possession of a  
4 firearm, 106 months in prison, eligibility of parole after  
5 62 months to run concurrently with the gross misdemeanor.

6 Count 3, conspiracy to commit first degree  
7 kidnapping, a felony, 60 months in prison, eligibility of  
8 parole after 24 months to run consecutively.

9 Count 4, first degree kidnapping with use of a  
10 deadly weapon, life imprisonment, eligibility of parole  
11 after 60 months, and an identical term of what is known as  
12 an enhancement to run consecutively, life imprisonment,  
13 eligibility of parole after 60 months. The sentence will  
14 run consecutively to the other counts.

15 Count 5, first degree kidnapping with use of a  
16 deadly weapon, life imprisonment, eligibility of parole  
17 after 60 months, an identical term to run consecutively by  
18 operation of law, an enhancement of life imprisonment,  
19 eligibility of parole after 60 months. This sentence will  
20 run consecutively.

21 Count 6, conspiracy to commit sexual assault, 60  
22 months in prison, eligibility of parole after 24 months,  
23 again to run consecutively.

24 Count 7, sexual assault with use of a deadly  
25 weapon, life imprisonment, eligibility of parole after 120

1 months, an identical term by virtue of the use of the  
2 weapon, the enhancement of life imprisonment, eligibility  
3 of parole after 120 months by operation of law to run  
4 consecutively. This sentence, Count 7, will run  
5 concurrent with the other sentences, other counts.

6 Count 8, sexual assault with use of a deadly  
7 weapon, life imprisonment, eligibility of parole after 120  
8 months, an identical term of life imprisonment,  
9 eligibility of parole after 120 months as an enhancement  
10 for the use of the deadly weapon to run consecutively.  
11 Count 8 will run consecutive to the other counts.

12 Count 9, sexual assault with use of a deadly  
13 weapon, life imprisonment, eligibility of parole after 120  
14 months, plus an identical term as an enhancement, life  
15 imprisonment, eligibility of parole after 120 months to  
16 run consecutively. Count 8 will run consecutively to the  
17 other counts.

18 Count --

19 MS. KOLLINS: I'm sorry, Your Honor. Was  
20 that Count 9?

21 THE COURT: Count 9. Count 10, conspiracy  
22 to commit robbery, 60 months in prison, eligibility of  
23 parole after 24 months. Count 10 will run consecutive to  
24 the other counts.

25 Count 11, robbery with use of a deadly weapon,

1 180 months in prison, eligibility of parole after 72  
2 months, an identical term of 180 months in prison,  
3 eligibility of parole after 72 months to run consecutively  
4 as an enhancement by virtue of the use of a deadly weapon.  
5 Count 11 will run concurrent to the other counts.

6 Count 12, robbery with use of a deadly weapon, a  
7 term of 180 months in prison, eligibility of parole after  
8 72 months. Count 12 will run consecutive to the other  
9 counts.

10 Count 13, open and gross lewdness, a gross  
11 misdemeanor, 12 months in the County Jail to run  
12 concurrently, notwithstanding the recommendation.

13 Count 14, battery with use of a deadly weapon  
14 resulting in substantial bodily harm, 156 months in  
15 prison, eligibility of parole after 62 months.  
16 Restitution in the amount of \$50,000.

17 And there is substantial credit for time served  
18 of 1,251 days.

19 MS. KOLLINS: Your Honor, Count 14 to run?

20 THE COURT: I'm sorry, consecutive to the  
21 other counts.

22 MS. KOLLINS: Thank you, Judge.

23 MS. RADOSTA: Actually, Judge, I don't think  
24 that that -- actually, let me double-check. No, that's  
25 not -- I don't even understand --

1 MS. KOLLINS: That's what I show 1,251. If  
2 you want to put it back on.

3 MS. RADOSTA: I'm just looking at it and the  
4 numbers don't make any sense, Judge. They're actually  
5 saying from March of '05 to July of '05 it's 1100 days.  
6 But if I find out that it's wrong, Judge, I will put it  
7 back on calendar.

8 THE COURT: Well, certainly, the Court  
9 contemplates full credit for time served. If it needs to  
10 be adjusted we can do so.

11 THE CLERK: Judge, does Count 12 not have an  
12 enhancement? Robbery with use.

13 MS. KOLLINS: It should.

14 THE COURT: Did I not mention that?

15 Count 12, robbery with use of a deadly weapon  
16 would contemplate the basis for an enhancement, an  
17 identical term of 120 months in prison, eligibility of  
18 parole after 72 months to run consecutively would be the  
19 proper sentence.

20 MS. KOLLINS: The only other thing I would  
21 ask for is the special condition of lifetime supervision  
22 and registration as a sex offender.

23 THE COURT: The sentence has been passed in  
24 conformity to the law. The condition that you mentioned,  
25 Ms. Kollins, certainly applies so that may be

1 incorporated.

2 Now, as to the latter matter on calendar here,  
3 C213690, Ms. Trippiedi?

4 MS. TRIPPIEDI: I believe it was the Public  
5 Defender's motion to withdraw, Judge.

6 MS. RADOSTA: And the State was to find out  
7 by today's date whether or not they could locate one of  
8 the -- Robin Poole, who was the former client of the  
9 Public Defender's office that we have a conflict with.

10 MS. TRIPPIEDI: And we have not ever been  
11 able to serve her or locate her at this time. So there's  
12 no conflict because we're not going to be using her.

13 THE COURT: Well, are you announcing at this  
14 time regardless of what may develop you're not going to  
15 use her?

16 MS. TRIPPIEDI: No. We will not be using  
17 her, that's correct.

18 THE COURT: The Public Defender will remain.  
19 We have a jury trial scheduled here going forward the 8th  
20 of September. We have that decision to make.

21 MS. TRIPPIEDI: I don't believe so, Judge.  
22 This is Amos Stege's case.

23 MS. RADOSTA: Judge, I believe we have  
24 calendar call on Tuesday on that.

25 THE COURT: We'll just wait until the 3rd

1 and see what the status is. That will be entertained the  
2 3rd. Thank you very much.

3  
4  
5 ATTEST: Full, true and accurate transcript of  
6 proceedings.

7  
8 MAUREEN SCHORN, CCR NO. 496, RPR

9 W

JOC

30  
**FILED**

**ORIGINAL**

SEP 24 1 08 PM '08

DISTRICT COURT

*Edna H. Smith*

CLERK OF THE COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Plaintiff,

CASE NO. C212968

-vs-

DEPT. NO. XIV

JOSEPH ALEXANDER HENDERSON  
#1502730

Defendant.

**JUDGMENT OF CONVICTION**

(JURY TRIAL)

The Defendant previously entered a plea of not guilty to the crimes of COUNT 1 – CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT BURGLARY (Gross Misdemeanor) in violation of NRS 199.480, 205.060; COUNT 2 – BURGLARY WHILE IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM (Category B Felony) in violation of NRS 205.060; COUNT 3 – CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT FIRST DEGREE KIDNAPING (Category B Felony) in violation of NRS 199.480, 200.310, 200.320; COUNT 4 – FIRST DEGREE KIDNAPING WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON (Category A Felony) in violation of NRS 200.310, 200.320, 193.165; COUNT 5 – FIRST DEGREE KIDNAPING WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON (Category A Felony) in violation of NRS 200.310, 200.320, 193.165; COUNT 6 –

**RECEIVED**

SEP 24 2008

CLERK OF THE COURT 1 AA 042

1 CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT SEXUAL ASSAULT (Category A Felony) in violation of  
2 NRS 199.480, 200.364, 200.366, of COUNT 7 – SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH USE OF A  
3 DEADLY WEAPON (Category A Felony) in violation of NRS 200.364, 200.366,  
4 193.165; COUNT 8 – SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON  
5 (Category A Felony) in violation of NRS 200.364, 200.366, 193.165; COUNT 9 –  
6 SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON (Category A Felony) in  
7 violation of NRS 200.364, 200.366, 193.165; COUNT 10 – CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT  
8 ROBBERY (Category B Felony) in violation of NRS 199.480, 200.380; COUNT 11 –  
9 ROBBERY WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON (Category B Felony) in violation of  
10 NRS 200.380, 193.165; COUNT 12 – ROBBERY WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON  
11 (Category B Felony) in violation of NRS 200.380, 193.165; COUNT 13 – OPEN OR  
12 GROSS LEWDNESS (Gross Misdemeanor) in violation of NRS 201.210; COUNT 14 –  
13 BATTERY WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON RESULTING IN SUBSTANTIAL  
14 BODILY HARM (Category B Felony) in violation of NRS 200.481(2)(e), and the matter  
15 having been tried before a jury and the Defendant having been found guilty of the  
16 crimes of COUNT 1 – CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT BURGLARY (Gross Misdemeanor)  
17 in violation of NRS 199.480, 205.060; COUNT 2 – BURGLARY WHILE IN  
18 POSSESSION OF A FIREARM (Category B Felony) in violation of NRS 205.060;  
19 COUNT 3 – CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT FIRST DEGREE KIDNAPING (Category B  
20 Felony) in violation of NRS 199.480, 200.310, 200.320; COUNT 4 – FIRST DEGREE  
21 KIDNAPING WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON (Category A Felony) in violation of  
22 NRS 200.310, 200.320, 193.165; COUNT 5 – FIRST DEGREE KIDNAPING WITH USE  
23 OF A DEADLY WEAPON (Category A Felony) in violation of NRS 200.310, 200.320,  
24 193.165; COUNT 6 – CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT SEXUAL ASSAULT (Category A

1 Felony) in violation of NRS 199.480, 200.364, 200.366, of COUNT 7 – SEXUAL  
2 ASSAULT WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON (Category A Felony) in violation of  
3 NRS 200.364, 200.366, 193.165; COUNT 8 – SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH USE OF A  
4 DEADLY WEAPON (Category A Felony) in violation of NRS 200.364, 200.366,  
5 193.165; COUNT 9 – SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON  
6 (Category A Felony) in violation of NRS 200.364, 200.366, 193.165; COUNT 10 –  
7 CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT ROBBERY (Category B Felony) in violation of NRS  
8 199.480, 200.380; COUNT 11 – ROBBERY WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON  
9 (Category B Felony) in violation of NRS 200.380, 193.165; COUNT 12 – ROBBERY  
10 WITH USE OF A DEADLY WEAPON (Category B Felony) in violation of NRS 200.380,  
11 193.165; COUNT 13 – OPEN OR GROSS LEWDNESS (Gross Misdemeanor) in  
12 violation of NRS 201.210; COUNT 14 – BATTERY WITH USE OF A DEADLY  
13 WEAPON RESULTING IN SUBSTANTIAL BODILY HARM (Category B Felony) in  
14 violation of NRS 200.481(2)(e); thereafter, on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2008, the  
15 Defendant was present in court for sentencing with his counsel, VIOLET RADOSTA,  
16 Deputy Public Defender, and good cause appearing,

17  
18 THE DEFENDANT IS HEREBY ADJUDGED guilty of said offense(s) and, in  
19 addition to the \$25.00 Administrative Assessment Fee, \$150.00 DNA Analysis Fee  
20 including testing to determine genetic markers, and \$50,000.00 Restitution, the  
21 Defendant is SENTENCED as follows: AS TO COUNT 1 - TO TWELVE (12) MONTHS  
22 in the Clark County Detention Center (CCDC); AS TO COUNT 2 - TO A MAXIMUM of  
23 ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX (156) MONTHS with a MINIMUM Parole Eligibility of  
24 SIXTY-TWO (62) MONTHS in the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDC), to run  
25 CONCURRENT with COUNT 1; AS TO COUNT 3 - TO A MAXIMUM of SIXTY (60)  
26  
27  
28

1 MONTHS with a MINIMUM Parole Eligibility of TWENTY-FOUR (24) MONTHS in the  
2 Nevada Department of Corrections (NDC), to run CONSECUTIVE to COUNT 2; AS TO  
3 COUNT 4 – TO LIFE with a MINIMUM Parole Eligibility after SIXTY (60) MONTHS, plus  
4 an EQUAL and CONSECUTIVE term of LIFE with a MINIMUM of SIXTY (60) MONTHS  
5 for the Use of a Deadly Weapon in the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDC), to run  
6 CONSECUTIVE to COUNT 3; AS TO COUNT 5 – TO LIFE with a MINIMUM Parole  
7 Eligibility after SIXTY (60) MONTHS, plus an EQUAL and CONSECUTIVE term of LIFE  
8 with a MINIMUM of SIXTY (60) MONTHS for the Use of a Deadly Weapon, in the  
9 Nevada Department of Corrections (NDC), to run CONSECUTIVE to COUNT 4; AS TO  
10 COUNT 6 - TO A MAXIMUM of SIXTY (60) a MINIMUM Parole Eligibility of TWENTY-  
11 FOUR (24) MONTHS in the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDC), to run  
12 CONSECUTIVE to COUNT 5; AS TO COUNT 7 - TO LIFE with a MINIMUM Parole  
13 Eligibility of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY (120) MONTHS, plus an EQUAL and  
14 CONSECUTIVE term of LIFE with a MINIMUM of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY (120)  
15 MONTHS for the Use of a Deadly Weapon in the Nevada Department of Corrections  
16 (NDC), to run CONCURRENT with COUNT 6; AS TO COUNT 8 - TO LIFE with a  
17 MINIMUM Parole Eligibility of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY (120) MONTHS, plus an  
18 EQUAL and CONSECUTIVE term of LIFE with a MINIMUM of ONE HUNDRED  
19 TWENTY (120) MONTHS for the Use of a Deadly Weapon in the Nevada Department  
20 of Corrections (NDC), to run CONSECUTIVE to COUNT 7; AS TO COUNT 9 - TO LIFE  
21 with a MINIMUM Parole Eligibility of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY (120) MONTHS, plus  
22 an EQUAL and CONSECUTIVE term of LIFE with a MINIMUM of ONE HUNDRED  
23 TWENTY (120) MONTHS for the Use of a Deadly Weapon in the Nevada Department  
24 of Corrections, to run CONSECUTIVE to COUNT 8; AS TO COUNT 10 - TO A

1 MAXIMUM of SIXTY (60) MONTHS with a MINIMUM Parole Eligibility of TWENTY-  
2 FOUR (24) MONTHS in the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDC), to run  
3 CONSECUTIVE to COUNT 9; AS TO COUNT 11 - TO A MAXIMUM of ONE HUNDRED  
4 EIGHTY (180) MONTHS with a MINIMUM Parole Eligibility of SEVENTY-TWO (72)  
5 MONTHS, plus an EQUAL and CONSECUTIVE term of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY (180)  
6 MAXIMUM and SEVENTY-TWO (72) MONTHS MINIMUM for the Use of a Deadly  
7 Weapon in the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDC), to run CONCURRENT with  
8 COUNT 10; AS TO COUNT 12 – TO A MAXIMUM of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY (180)  
9 MONTHS with a MINIMUM Parole Eligibility of SEVENTY-TWO (72) MONTHS, plus an  
10 EQUAL and CONSECUTIVE term of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY (180) MAXIMUM and  
11 SEVENTY-TWO (72) MINIMUM for the Use of a Deadly Weapon in the Nevada  
12 Department of Corrections, to run CONSECUTIVE to COUNT 11; AS TO COUNT 13 -  
13 TO TWELVE MONTHS (12) in the Clark County Detention Center (CCDC), to run  
14 CONCURRENT with COUNT 12; AS TO COUNT 14 - A MAXIMUM of ONE HUNDRED  
15 FIFTY-SIX (156) MONTHS with a MINIMUM Parole Eligibility of SIXTY-TWO (62)  
16 MONTHS in the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDC), to run CONSECUTIVE to  
17 COUNT 13; with ONE THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED, FIFTY-ONE (1,251) DAYS credit  
18 for time served.


19 FURTHER ORDERED, a SPECIAL SENTENCE of LIFETIME SUPERVISION is  
20 imposed to commence upon release from any term of imprisonment, probation or  
21 parole.

22 ///

23 ///

1            ADDITIONALLY, the Defendant is ORDERED to REGISTER as a sex offender in  
2 accordance with NRS 179D.460 within FORTY-EIGHT (48) HOURS after any release  
3 from custody.  
4

5  
6            DATED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2008

7  
8              
9            DONALD M. MOSLEY            *UB*  
10            DISTRICT JUDGE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

JOSEPH ALEXANDER HENDERSON, ) NO. 52573  
Appellant, )  
vs. )  
THE STATE OF NEVADA, )  
Respondent. )

FILED

APR 01 2009  
TRACIE A. LINDEMAN  
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
BY *[Signature]*  
DEPUTY CLERK

APPELLANT'S OPENING BRIEF

(Appeal from Judgment of Conviction)

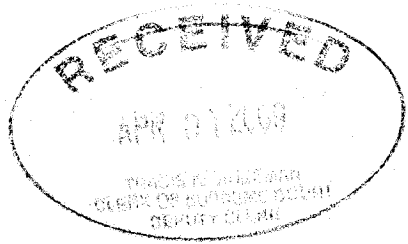
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JOSEPH ALEXANDER HENDERSON, ) NO. 5257  
 )  
 Appellant, )  
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 vs. )  
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 THE STATE OF NEVADA, )  
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 Respondent. )  
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### Counsel for Respondent

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JOSEPH ALEXANDER HENDERSON, ) NO. 52573  
)  
Appellant, )  
)  
vs. )  
)  
THE STATE OF NEVADA, )  
)  
Respondent. )

## ISSUES PRESENTED FOR REVIEW

**I. JOSEPH HENDERSON WAS PREJUDICED BY THE GOVERNMENT'S CONSUMPTION OF THE DNA MATERIAL. AS A RESULT, HE COULD NOT RETEST THE DNA MATERIAL TO SHOW THE INADEQUACY OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CONCLUSIONS CONCERNING DNA EVIDENCE.**

**II. AFTER DENYING THE DEFENSE MOTION TO DISMISS, THE COURT FAILED TO AFFORD MR. HENDERSON ALTERNATIVE RELIEF SOUGHT BY THE DEFENSE AND THEREBY VIOLATED HIS RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS.**

**III. THE COURT ERRED WHEN IT DENIED THE DEFENSE MOTION  
IN LIMINE AND THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD HAVE BEEN  
PRECLUDED FROM ARGUING AND PRESENTING EVIDENCE THAT  
JOSEPH HENDERSON'S IDENTITY IS ASSUMED AS A RESULT OF  
THE DNA TESTING**

**IV. MR. HENDERSON'S RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS WAS VIOLATED  
WHEN THE COURT DENIED DEFENSE MOTION FOR A MISTRIAL  
AFTER THE TESTIMONY OF KIM MURGA**

**V. MR. HENDERSON WAS DENIED A FAIR TRIAL WHEN THE JURY POOL WAS TAINTED BY THE FACT THAT THE DISTRICT COURT DENIED THE DEFENSE REQUEST NOT TO VOICE PEREMPTORY CHALLENGES IN OPEN COURT.**

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1 consecutive with Count 5; Count 7 (Sexual Assault with use of a Deadly Weapon) - to Life with  
2 a minimum parole eligibility after 120 months plus an equal and consecutive term of Life with a  
3 minimum parole eligibility after 120 months for the use of a deadly weapon, to run concurrent to  
4 Count 6; Count 8 (Sexual Assault with use of a Deadly Weapon) - to Life with a minimum  
5 parole eligibility after 120 months plus an equal and consecutive term of Life with a minimum  
6 parole eligibility after 120 months for the use of a deadly weapon, to run consecutive to Count 7;  
7 Count 9 (Sexual Assault with use of a Deadly Weapon) - to Life with a minimum parole  
8 eligibility after 120 months plus an equal and consecutive term of Life with a minimum parole  
9 eligibility after 120 months for the use of a deadly weapon, to run consecutive to Count 8 ;  
10 Count 10 (Conspiracy to Commit Robbery) - a maximum of 60 months with a minimum parole  
11 eligibility of 24 months in the Nevada Department of Corrections, to run consecutive with Count  
12 9; Count 11 (Robbery with use of a Deadly Weapon) - a maximum of 180 months with a  
13 minimum parole eligibility of 72 months in the Nevada Department of Corrections plus an equal  
14 and consecutive term of 180 months with a minimum parole eligibility after 72 months for the  
15 use of a deadly weapon, to run concurrent to Count 10; Count 12 (Robbery with use of a Deadly  
16 Weapon) - a maximum of 180 months with a minimum parole eligibility of 72 months in the  
17 Nevada Department of Corrections plus an equal and consecutive term of 180 months with a  
18 minimum parole eligibility after 72 months for the use of a deadly weapon, to run consecutive to  
19 Count 11; Count 13 (Open and Gross Lewdness) - 12 months in the Clark County Detention  
20 Center to run concurrent to Count 12; Count 14 (Battery with use of a Deadly Weapon Resulting  
21 in Substantial Bodily Harm) - a maximum of 156 months with a minimum parole eligibility of  
22 62 months in the Nevada Department of Corrections, to run consecutive with Count 13.

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27 Mr. Henderson was given 1,251 days for credit served. (APP. 294-299; 304-319).  
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1 Three separate tests were performed concerning the DNA. The records are clear that a  
2 portion of the swabs taken from Joseph Henderson were used for comparison. However, the  
3 same was not true regarding the suspect evidence collected at the scene. Breast swabs were  
4 extracted and apparently consumed to the point where retesting would be impossible.  
5 Additionally, DNA was extracted from the bed sheets from the upstairs bedroom. However,  
6 nearly all of the material was extracted in order to obtain a sufficient profile. Lastly, two vaginal  
7 swabs were collected and apparently completely used during the course of the DNA testing.  
8 Thus there was insufficient DNA material in order for the defense to retest the DNA in the  
9 Joseph Henderson case.  
10  
11

## 12 ARGUMENT

### 13 I. JOSEPH HENDERSON WAS PREJUDICED BY THE 14 GOVERNMENT'S CONSUMPTION OF THE DNA MATERIAL. AS A 15 RESULT, HE COULD NOT RETEST THE DNA MATERIAL TO SHOW 16 THE INADEQUACY OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CONCLUSIONS 17 CONCERNING DNA EVIDENCE.

18 Joseph Henderson was discovered by the Government by what is known as a "cold hit"  
19 case. The unidentified DNA material was entered into a national database. This gave the  
20 Government the possibility that Henderson may be the source of the DNA material left at the  
21 crime scene and on the female victim. Based on this information, the Government obtained  
22 sample swabs of Joseph's DNA material. These samples were then compared to the semen in  
23 the vaginal swabs, on the bed sheets, as well as saliva collected from the breast of the female  
24 victim. In the course of the testing, all or significant portions of this DNA material was  
25 consumed by the Government. (The State's position was that there was not a swab available,  
26 but that there was an extraction from the original piece of evidence. (APP. 338)) Accordingly,  
27 Joseph Henderson was in the position where he could not retest and challenge the conclusions of  
28 the Government's experts. Therefore, dismissal of the charges against Henderson was  
appropriate.

1 Loss or destruction of the evidence by the State violates due process, "only if the  
2 defendant shows either that the State acted in bad faith or that the defendant suffered undue  
3 prejudice and the exculpatory value of the evidence was apparent before it was lost or  
4 destroyed." Leonard v. State, 117 Nev. 53, 68, 17 P.3d 397, 407 (2001). These standards are in  
5 the disjunctive. In other words, Mr. Henderson had only to show either bad faith on the part of  
6 the State or that he suffered prejudice from the loss. "To establish prejudice, the defendant must  
7 show that it could be reasonably anticipated the evidence would have been exculpatory and  
8 material to the defense." Cook v. State, 114 Nev. 120, 125, 953 P.2d 712, 715 (1998).

10 When evidence is lost as a result of inadequate government handling, a conviction may  
11 be reversed. Howard v. State, 95 Nev. 580, 600 P.2d 214 (1979); United States v. Heiden, 508  
12 F.2d 898 (Cir. 1974). For more than 30 years, both the Nevada Supreme Court as well as the  
13 Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals have reiterated that a defendant must show either 1) bad faith or  
14 contrivance on the part of the government; or 2) prejudice from its loss. Id.

16 Henderson could show both in the instant case. First, the DNA evidence was mishandled  
17 in bad faith. When the Government undertook the steps to attempt to match Joseph Henderson  
18 to the DNA, it was aware that no suspect was initially developed. Also the results of the DNA  
19 testing were critical to solidifying Henderson as the individual who not only participated in the  
20 crimes, but specifically performed the alleged sexual assaults.

22 Even more troubling is the fact that the Government was already aware that Joseph  
23 Henderson had counsel when some of the testing which destroyed the remaining DNA was  
24 performed. Joseph was arrested on or about March of 2005. The final testing performed by the  
25 Forensic Laboratory was done in the end of July of 2005. Defense counsel was never contacted  
26 and notified that the testing may diminish or completely eliminate the ability to retest the  
27 materials. Thus, Mr. Henderson showed bad faith on the part of the Government as outlined by  
28 Leonard, Supra.

1           Additionally, and separately, Joseph Henderson suffered undo prejudice from the lost  
2 evidence. The lost evidence is material and potentially exculpatory to the defense. Cook, Supra.  
3 Henderson had a DNA forensic expert review all the records of reports provided by the Forensic  
4 Crime Lab. Based on the defense expert's review of the records there were several areas where  
5 the extraction and examination of the DNA material could be called into question. Additionally,  
6 there was insignificant remaining DNA material from all the swabbings to retest. Thus, Mr.  
7 Henderson established that the sole piece of evidence linking him to the crime scene was  
8 potentially exculpatory and certainly material to the defense.  
9

10           **II. AFTER DENYING THE DEFENSE MOTION TO DISMISS, THE**  
11 **COURT FAILED TO AFFORD MR. HENDERSON ALTERNATIVE**  
12 **RELIEF SOUGHT BY THE DEFENSE AND THEREBY VIOLATED HIS**  
13 **RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS.**

14           The Defense filed a Motion to Dismiss for failure to Preserve Evidence. The Court  
15 denied the motion. In the alternative the Defense asked for alternative relief. Because of the  
16 State's failure to preserve enough DNA sample for the defense to independently test, the court  
17 could have precluded the government from presenting evidence regarding the results of the DNA  
18 testing. See, Sandborn v. State, 107 Nev. 399, 812 P.2d 1279 (1991). The court failed to do so  
19 and therefore failed to protect Mr. Henderson's right to due process. In the second alternative,  
20 the court could have provided an instruction that the mishandled DNA evidence prejudiced Mr.  
21 Henderson, and that the jury be instructed conclusively that the DNA material did not match  
22 him. Id. 408, 812 P.2d at 1286. Failure to do so violated Mr. Henderson's right to due process.  
23

24           **III. THE COURT ERRED WHEN IT DENIED THE DEFENSE MOTION**  
25 **IN LIMINE AND THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD HAVE BEEN**  
26 **PRECLUDED FROM ARGUING AND PRESENTING EVIDENCE THAT**  
27 **JOSEPH HENDERSON'S IDENTITY IS ASSUMED AS A RESULT OF**  
28 **THE DNA TESTING**

          Mr. Henderson's Motion in Limine challenged the nature and extent by which the State's  
expert could testify and the prosecutor could argue regarding conclusions of the DNA testing.

1 The motion in limine asked the Court not to allow inaccurate and unreliable testimony  
2 concerning DNA evidence. The government should not have been able to present nor argue  
3 statistical evidence to suggest that the DNA evidence indicates the likelihood of the defendant's  
4 guilt rather than the odds of the evidence having him found in a randomly selective sample.  
5

6 The Court's have held that evidence cannot be present nor arguments made concerning  
7 the "prosecutor's fallacy." The Prosecutor's fallacy occurs when the prosecutor elicits testimony  
8 that confuses source probability with random match probability. Put another way, Prosecutor err  
9 when he or she "presents statistical evidence to suggest that the [DNA] evidence indicates the  
10 likelihood of the defendant's guilt rather than the odds of the evidence having been found in a  
11 randomly selective sample." **Brown v. Farwell**, 208 U.S. App. Lexus 9637 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. May 5,  
12 2008), Citing, United States v. Chischilly, 30 F. 3d 1144, 1157 (9<sup>th</sup> cir. 1994). In the  
13 **Chischilly** case, the Court said:  
14

15 "To illustrate, suppose the .... Evidence establishes that there is a 1 in 10,000  
16 chance of a random match. The jury might equate this likelihood with source  
17 probability by believing that there is a 1 in 10,000 chance that the evidentiary  
18 sample did not come from the defendant. This equation of random match  
19 probability with source probability is known as the prosecutor's fallacy."

20 Such a fallacy is dangerous, as the probability of finding a random match can be much  
21 higher than the probability of matching one individual, given the weight of the non-DNA  
22 evidence. See, William C. Thompson and Edward L. Schumann, *Interception of Statistical*  
23 *Evidence in Criminal Trials*, 11 L.ANDHUM.BEHAV.167, 170-71 (1987)(noting that the  
24 prosecutor's fallacy "could lead to serious error, particularly where the other evidence in the  
25 case is weak and therefore the prior probability of guilt is low").

26 The prosecution could elicit that the DNA match is one in whatever number of people  
27 randomly selected from the population would also match the DNA found. That is random match  
28 probability. However, giving a percentage that the DNA was found to be Joseph Henderson was  
impermissible. That is source probability. Additionally, an expert should be precluded from

1 stating, and the prosecutor precluded from arguing identity is assumed. This is impermissible for  
2 the same reasons already mentioned herein. Brown, Supra.

3 **IV. MR. HENDERSON'S RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS WAS VIOLATED**  
4 **WHEN THE COURT DENIED DEFENSE MOTION FOR A MISTRIAL**  
5 **AFTER THE TESTIMONY OF KIM MURGA.**

6 Following the testimony of Ms. Murga, the Defense made an oral motion for mistrial, or  
7 in the alternative to strike the testimony of Kim Murga, the DNA laboratory manager for the Las  
8 Vegas Metropolitan Police Department crime laboratory. (APP. 567) The motion was based on  
9 multiple points:

10 1) Kim Murga was noticed as an expert witness by the State 20 days prior to trial.

11 In her response to the notice problem, the prosecutor informed the court that she had not  
12 been sure whether or not Mr. Welch (another DNA witness used by the State) would appear to  
13 testify. (APP. 567-8) Mr. Welch was retired from Metro DNA lab and apparently, "the county  
14 did not pay him in a timely fashion, (for testimony in another case) and he was back and forth  
15 whether he was going to testify for us in this case. I spent probably an hour and a half on the  
16 phone trying to get him to agree to come in for this case." (APP. 567) Not wanting to be  
17 without an expert to testify at trial, the State had noticed Ms. Murga, although a day late, and  
18 had a conversation with defense attorney regarding the possibility of Ms. Murga testifying. The  
19 Defense was under the impression that either Mr. Welch or Ms. Murga would be testifying, but  
20 not both. That is, "if Mr. Welch were to be unavailable then she would be the substitute for  
21 him." (APP.568)

22 2) Ms. Murga used notes in her testimony that had not been previously provided to the  
23 defense, thereby violating Brady v. Maryland and discovery rules.

24 During cross examination, Ms. Murga referred to notes she made when reviewing Mr.  
25 Welch's work. The defense had not previously seen the notes and had to ask the court for a  
26 recess in order to have a look at the notes. (APP. 565) Defense counsel argued to the court that:

1 . . . the additional problem we have with this testimony in doing so is there is no  
2 report or record of any of the work that is done by Ms. Murga at all, until I walk  
3 in here in the middle of a case and begin to cross-examine her in front of the jury  
4 and note are produced and I have to literally take a break and read these notes  
5 which I cannot now confer with my expert regarding any of these notes, and to be  
6 able to properly cross-examine them on it.

7 We have the complexity of not only the prejudicial nature of her testimony, but  
8 we also have a discovery violation. . . . The discovery rules say that they have an  
9 ongoing responsibility to provide all discovery especially when it comes to expert  
10 witnesses.

11 Any new notes or any new reports that are generated by the Las Vegas  
12 Metropolitan Police Department forensic lab must be timely turned over to the  
13 Defense.

14 They had three weeks to do it and now I'm completely surprised by this and have  
15 to cross-examine Ms. Murga the best I can with these notes.

16 These notes are basically a summary, that is true, of what was already done by  
17 Mr. Welch and Ms. Gunther.

18 However, there is also – and we've made it a court exhibit and I'm going to ask it  
19 be introduced as a court exhibit, there is also mathematical calculations on there  
20 and other notions regarding her analysis of all which I would like to show to my  
21 expert to say, are these numbers correct? Are they reasonable? Did she do this  
22 right? I can't do that in the middle of trial. (APP. 568)

23 "Suppression of material evidence justifies a new trial 'irrespective of the good faith or bad faith  
24 of the prosecutor.'" Giglio v. United States, 405 U.S. 150, 154 (1972). Mr. Henderson need  
25 only show that the suppression of the evidence undermined the outcome of the trial. Not having  
26 the notes for an expert to look at and verify hampered the defense and thereby undermined the  
27 outcome of the trial. "One does not show a Brady violation by demonstrating that some of the  
28 inculpatory evidence should have been excluded, but by showing that the favorable evidence  
could reasonably be taken to put the whole case in such a different light as to undermine  
confidence in the verdict." Kyles v. Whitley, 514 U.S. 419, 435 (1995). Brady material  
includes not only information physically in the possession of the prosecutor. The State should  
have anticipated that their forensic witness would have notes that the defense would want to  
verify. This Court recognizes "the state attorney is charged with constructive knowledge and  
possession of evidence withheld by other state agents, such as law enforcement officers." State

1 v. Bennett, 119 Nev. Adv. Rep. 63, 81 P.3d 1, 28 (2003), quoting Jimenez v. State, 112 Nev.  
2 610, 620, 918 P.2d 687 (1996).

3 Brady and its progeny require the State to disclose evidence favorable to the defense if the  
4 evidence is material either to guilt or to punishment. Brady v. Maryland, 373 U.S. 83 (1963);  
5 Jimenez v. State, 112 Nev. at 618-19. Failure to do so violates due process regardless of the  
6 prosecutor's motive. *Id.*

7 In sum, there are three components to a Brady violation: the evidence at issue  
8 is favorable to the accused; the evidence was withheld by the state, either  
9 intentionally or inadvertently; and prejudice ensued, i.e., the evidence was  
material. (Citations omitted).

10 Mazzan v. Warden, 116 Nev. 48, 67, 993 P.2d 25 (2000).

11 Due process does not require simply the disclosure of exculpatory evidence.  
12 Evidence also must be disclosed if it provides grounds for the defense to attack  
13 the reliability, thoroughness, and good faith of the police investigation, to  
14 impeach the credibility of the state's witnesses, or to bolster the defense case  
against prosecutorial attacks.

15 Lay v. State, 116 Nev. 1185, 1199, 14 P.3d 1256, 1261 (2000) (citations omitted).

16 The prosecutor has a duty to locate and identify material evidence favorable to the defense.

17 Jimenez, 112 Nev. at 618-19.

18 The crux of this case came down to DNA evidence. The defense needed to be able to  
19 have their expert verify the accuracy of these notes and not be in a position to have to read the  
20 notes for the first time during the middle of trial.

21  
22 3) By allowing Ms. Murga to testify, the State in essence was allowed to vouch for the  
23 reliability of their witness Mr. Welch.

24 Due process is violated when a prosecutor vouches for the veracity its witnesses. An  
25 opinion as to the veracity of a witness when veracity may determine the ultimate issue of guilt or  
26 innocence is improper. Witherow, supra. "It is for the jury, not the prosecutor, to say which  
27 witnesses were telling the truth." Witherow, supra., at 725, citing Harris, 402 F.2d 658. Ms.  
28

1 Murga's testimony, in essence, was used by the State to vouch for the testimony of Mr. Welch,  
2 another State witness.

3 Court's universally condemn the eliciting of testimony concerning the veracity of a  
4 witness. In United States v. Sanchez, 176 F.3d 1214, 1219-1220 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1999) the Court  
5 found that questions such as this are improper because the "determinations of credibility are for  
6 the jury not for the witnesses".

7  
8 Ms. Murga did no independent testing of the DNA. In essence, all that Ms. Murga's  
9 testimony did was to vouch to the jury what a good job she thought Mr. Welch had done in his  
10 testing.

11  
12 **V. MR. HENDERSON WAS DENIED A FAIR TRIAL WHEN THE JURY**  
13 **POOL WAS TAINTED BY THE FACT THAT THE DISTRICT COURT**  
14 **DENIED THE DEFENSE REQUEST NOT TO VOICE PEREMPTORY**  
15 **CHALLENGES IN OPEN COURT.**

16 During voir dire the defense requested of the court that "pursuant to the Foster Decision,  
17 we were requesting that we not be required to voice the peremptory challenges in open court,  
18 since the Nevada Supreme Court strongly recommends it's not done in that fashion. (APP. 410)  
19 See, Foster v. State, 121 Nevada 165. Defense counsel further told the court that "in that  
20 headnote the Supreme Court says "We emphasize, however, our strong preference that, in  
21 accordance with the American Bar Association standards, the trial courts of the State should  
22 assure that all peremptory challenges during jury select are exercise and considered outside the  
23 presence of a jury venue."" (APP.410) If a peremptory challenge is announced from the bench,  
24 it will not be known to the jurors whether the defense or the State excused a prospective juror.  
25 That way jurors will not be concerned as they go through the process of voir dire why the  
26 defense of why the State would strike them.

27  
28 After defense counsel offered different possible ways to comply with this Nevada  
Supreme Court's suggestion, the trial court responded, "Much ado about nothing, in my view. I

1 appreciate the input from all concerned. I'm not inclined to change my method of doing this for  
2 the last 27 years." (APP. 410)

3 By failing to follow the Supreme Court's suggestion for conducting voir dire, the trial  
4 court denied Mr. Henderson his right to a fair trial and an impartial jury.  
5

6 **CONCLUSION**

7 Based on the foregoing, the conviction against Joseph Henderson should be vacated. .

8 Respectfully submitted,

9  
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11  
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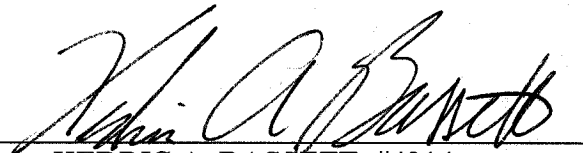
**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

I hereby certify that I have read this appellate brief, and to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, it is not frivolous or interposed for any improper purpose. I further certify that this brief complies with all applicable Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure, in particular NRAP 28(e), which requires every assertion in the brief regarding matters in the record to be supported by a reference to the page of the transcript or appendix where the matter relied on is to be found. I understand that I may be subject to sanctions in the event that the accompanying brief is not in conformity with the requirements of the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure.

DATED this 27th day of March, 2009.

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Case No. 52573

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# Appeal From Judgment of Conviction Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County

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JOSEPH ALEXANDER HENDERSON,  
Appellant,  
v.  
THE STATE OF NEVADA,  
Respondent.

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1 commit robbery, robbery with use of a deadly weapon (two counts), open or gross  
2 lewdness and battery with use of a deadly weapon resulting in substantial bodily  
3 harm. Appellant's Appendix ("AA ") 129-134. On July 14, 2005, the Defendant pled  
4 not guilty to all charges. AA 304.

5 The original trial date for this matter was set for early 2006, but the date was  
6 vacated and reset numerous times at Defendant's counsel request. AA 305-308. On  
7 August 21, 2007, the trial date was vacated and reset again at Defendant's request.  
8 AA 308. Additionally, Defendant's counsel advised the district court that they will  
9 retain an expert that will be reviewing the State's DNA reports and they will let the  
10 court know at status check whether the Defendant will retest the DNA evidence. AA  
11 308. On September 27, 2007 and March 19, 2008, the Defendant's counsel informed  
12 the district court that they were going to retest the DNA evidence. AA 310-311.  
13 However, on April 2, 2008, the Defendant's counsel informed the District Court that  
14 they were going to use an expert to confer with regarding the DNA testing, but that  
15 the Defendant will not be retesting the DNA. AA 311-312.

16 On June 3, 2008, Defendant filed a Motion to Dismiss for Destruction of  
17 Evidence and a Motion in Limine To Preclude "Prosecutor's Fallacy, Arguments  
18 Regarding DNA Material. AA 196-208. On June 16, 2008, the State filed its  
19 Oppositions to both of Defendant's Motions. AA 209-220. On June 17, 2008, the  
20 District Court denied both of Defendant's motions. AA 312-313.

21 On June 23, 2008, the trial finally commenced. AA 313. Defendant was  
22 convicted of all counts on June 27, 2008. AA 316. On August 28, 2008, Defendant  
23 was sentenced by the trial court. AA 318-319. The Judgment of Conviction was filed  
24 on September 24, 2008. AA 294-299.

25 Defendant filed his Notice of Appeal on October 9, 2008. AA 300-303. The  
26 State's Response follows.

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After not finding the keys in the backyard, the olive-skinned man told Eric he was going to go to his car to get a flashlight to aid in the search for the keys. AA 464. Eric went to his garage to try to find a flashlight. AA 464. Eric returned from the garage, to find the olive-skinned man in his house with two masked black men both wielding guns with laser sights (hereinafter collectively referred to as “intruders”). AA 464.<sup>1</sup> Defendant was one of these masked intruders. The intruders tied Julie hands with plastic ties. AA 435. They tried to tie Eric up with the plastic ties but when the plastic ties did not fit, they used a pair of seemingly real handcuffs<sup>2</sup> and took him to upstairs portion of the house. AA 467

<sup>2</sup> At the time, it would appear that the intruders were unaware that the handcuffs were “gag handcuffs that did not require a key to open.”

1 closet. AA 465-466. While the intruders were occupied, Eric was able to get out of his  
2 handcuffs. AA 468. He attempted to get down the stairs but was caught by one of the  
3 masked intruders eventually leading to a scuffle with both masked intruders. AA 468.  
4 However, while scuffling with one of the intruders, Eric was pistol-whipped two or  
5 three times, splitting his head open. AA 468. Eventually, the intruders tied Eric up  
6 with electrical cords and left him to bleed on the floor. AA 469.

7 While the olive-skinned man and the other masked intruder were looking for  
8 the safe with Eric, the Defendant was downstairs with Julie. AA 436. Defendant held  
9 her at gunpoint, put a pair of Eric's swim trunks over her head, put a cat toy in her  
10 mouth and threatened to kill her if she screamed. AA 436. He then began to fondle  
11 her, placed his mouth on her breasts and sexually assaulted her by inserting his fingers  
12 into her vagina. AA 436-438, 440. He then forced Julie to spread her legs and sexually  
13 assaulted her by inserting his penis in her vagina. AA 439

14 Defendant was distracted by the commotion caused by Eric's scuffle with the  
15 other intruders in the upstairs part of the house. AA 439-441. Defendant then took  
16 Julie upstairs to the master bedroom, placed her face down on the bed and sexually  
17 assaulted her for a third time by inserting his penis in her vagina. AA 441-442.

18 Shortly after Defendant's last sexual assault, the intruders tied up Julie's legs  
19 and left the home. AA 445. Julie worked her way loose and discovered Eric lying in a  
20 pool blood. AA 445-446. She untied him and they went downstairs to call the police.  
21 AA 446, 470.

22 Julie was taken to UMC, where she underwent a sexual assault examination  
23 including buccal swabs, vaginal swabs and breast swabs from the area of her breasts  
24 where the Defendant put his mouth. AA 480. Additionally, crime scene investigators  
25 collected, among other things, the top sheet and fitted sheet from the master bedroom.  
26 AA 522-523.

27 Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department ("LVMPD") forensic scientist  
28 David Welch was able to develop unknown male profile from the foreign DNA

1 material detected on the breast swabs of the victim. AA 514-515.<sup>3</sup> Welch also tested  
2 one of the vaginal swabs but was unable to develop a profile from the vaginal swab.<sup>4</sup>  
3 AA 517. The DNA profile from the unknown male was searched against the local  
4 DNA Index System and no matches were found. AA 44. The DNA profile was then  
5 uploaded to the National DNA Index System for comparison. AA 88. Later, a  
6 “CODIS HIT” was discovered and came back to Defendant, who was already in  
7 custody for another matter. AA 35.

8 LVMPD Detective Michael Jefferies obtained a search warrant for a buccal  
9 swab from Defendant, to confirm the DNA match was true and correct. AA 485. In  
10 March 2005, LVMPD forensic scientist Kathy M. Guenther (“Guenther”), using the  
11 unknown male profile created by Welch and the profile created from Defendant’s  
12 buccal swab, discovered a positive match or positive comparison with Defendant’s  
13 DNA on all 13 locations used by LVMPD forensic scientist to match DNA at the  
14 time. AA 530. Guenther testified under statistical threshold set in the LVMPD  
15 laboratory the chances of a random selective sample to have the same profile was six  
16 hundred billion (6,000,000,000) to one (1). AA 531. Because six hundred billion is  
17 hundred times the earth’s population at the time, under laboratory standards identity is  
18 assumed.<sup>5</sup> AA 531-532.

19 In March of 2005, Defendant was officially confirmed as the source of the  
20 foreign DNA material taken from Julie Kim body, at which time he was arrested. AA  
21 487.

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25 <sup>3</sup> Welch testified that he used both breast swabs because based on his experience (thirty years working experience as a  
26 forensic scientist) there is usually very little foreign DNA on the breast swabs and that in order to have the best shot at  
developing a profile it was his policy to always use two breast swabs for an extraction. AA 514.

27 <sup>4</sup> Welch testified that his testing of the vaginal swab indicated that semen was present but could not find any  
spermatozoa (aka sperm), which prevented him from making any conclusive results. AA 517.

28 <sup>5</sup> The only exception is if an individual has an identical twin. Identical twins can have the same DNA. AA 511. In this  
case, there is no indication that the Defendant has an identical twin and no such a defense was ever offered by  
Defendant’s counsel.

Additionally, on July 25, 2005, Guenther conducted further DNA testing from Julie's sexual assault examination. AA 532.<sup>6</sup> The testing included extractions from the buccal swab and vaginal swabs<sup>7</sup> from Julie, as well as the bed sheets removed from the bed in the master bedroom, and the bathrobe found in the master bedroom. AA 532. Semen with sufficient spermatozoa was detected on one of the bedsheets (in two separate stains) and the vaginal swab. AA 534-535. Once again, Defendant was found to be a complete match with the DNA profiles created by the extractions from the soiled bedsheets and the vaginal swab. AA 535.

## ARGUMENT

# I

## DEFENDANT WAS NOT PREJUDICED BY THE STATE'S HANDLING OF THE DNA EVIDENCE

### **A. The DNA Evidence Was Not Fully Consumed By The State's Testing.**

Defendant contends that his conviction should be vacated because the State consumed all the DNA material and therefore the Defendant was unable to retest the DNA material. Defendant states that all “significant portions of this DNA material was consumed by the Government. He claims that the State’s actions prevented him from retesting and challenging the conclusions made by the State regarding the DNA. However, the record clearly indicates that is not the situation in this case. Defendant could not only retest the DNA material but that he actually chose not to retest it.

Originally, the Defendant counsel stated that they were not going to retest the DNA material. AA 312. However, some months later, Defendant made a motion to dismiss this case based on consumption of the DNA material. AA 196-200. The State opposed Defendant's motion by stating that evidence was neither lost nor destroyed

<sup>6</sup> By July of 2005, the LVMPD forensic lab added two additional markers for DNA match and now had 15 threshold points to match. AA 534. Guenther re-profiled the Defendant known sample in order to compare his sample with the DNA testing of the rest of the sexual assault examination kit. AA 535.

<sup>7</sup> Despite Defendant's claims that vaginal swabs were completed used up during this time (Appellant's Opening brief, p. 5), Guenther testified that part of both remaining vaginal swabs were saved for retesting and were still being maintained as of the date of trial. AA 533.

1 and that the extraction from the breast swabs as well as actual vaginal swabs and  
2 bedsheets were all available to the Defendant for retesting. AA 209-214. At the trial,  
3 LVMPD forensic scientist Guenther testified regarding the vaginal swabs indicating  
4 she took “half of each of the remaining two swabs and sav(ed) half of each  
5 for...further analysis. AA 533. This led to the following questioning by the district  
6 attorney:

7 Ms. Kollins: First and Foremost, you preserved portions of  
8 those swabs available for retesting; is that correct?

9 Ms. Guenther: That’s correct.

10 Ms. Kollins: And those are maintained today?

11 Ms. Guenther: That’s correct.

12 AA 533. Additionally, Defendant counsel never contradicted the State’s argument  
13 that the bedsheets were available for retesting. Therefore, the only item containing  
14 DNA material that might have been fully consumed and therefore unable to be  
15 retested is the breast swabs.

16 Welch testified that while there were no breast swabs left there was an “extract that  
17 was placed in Metro DNA vault freezer for future analysis. AA 504. Therefore, the  
18 Defendant had the opportunity to retest the extraction.<sup>8</sup> The Defendant never bothered  
19 to do any such retesting, nor does he explain why the preservation of the extraction  
20 from the breast swabs as opposed to the original material prejudices him. Because, the  
21 Defendant has had several opportunities to retest the original DNA material from  
22 vaginal swabs and the bedsheets, the opportunity to test the extraction from the breast  
23 swabs and the opportunity to examine the State’s DNA experts under oath, he was not  
24 prejudiced by the State’s use of the DNA material.

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28 <sup>8</sup> This is also referenced in the State’s Opposition to Defendant’s Motion to Dismiss filed nearly a year ago. AA 209-214.

1       **B. Even If One Assumes, *In Arguendo*, That Certain DNA Material Was Fully**  
2       **Consumed, The Defendant Failed To Show That The State’s Actions Were**  
3       **Done In Bad Faith Or That The Defendant Suffered Undue Prejudice.**

4       Even if this Court finds that breast swabs were fully consumed by the State,  
5       these actions do not automatically violate the due process rights of the Defendant. The  
6       Defendant must show that the State’s loss or destruction of the evidence was done in  
7       bad faith or that the Defendant suffered undue prejudice and the exculpatory value of  
8       the evidence was apparent before it was lost or destroyed. Leonard v. State, 117 Nev.  
9       53, 68, 17 P.3d 397, 407 (2001); Williams v. State, 118 Nev. 536, 552, 50 P. 3d 1116,  
10       1126 (2004). The burden is on the Defendant to show that it could be reasonably  
11       anticipated that the evidence sought would be exculpatory and material to the defense.  
12       Leonard, 117 Nev. at 68, 17 P.3d at 407 (quoting Boggs v. State, 95 Nev. 911, 913,  
13       604 P.2d 107, 108 (1979)). It is not sufficient to show “ ‘merely a hoped-for  
14       conclusion’ “ or “ ‘that examination of the evidence would be helpful in preparing [a]  
15       defense.’ Id.

16               **1.       The State did not act in bad faith in its handling of**  
17               **the DNA material.**

18       Governmental bad faith has been shown where evidence was lost as a result of  
19       inadequate governmental handling. Crockett v. State, 95 Nev. 859, 865, 603 P.2d  
20       1078, 1081 (1979). Or when the government has kept evidence a “secret in the hopes  
21       that it could use the information to impeach the defendant on the stand, McKee v.  
22       State, 112 Nev. 642, 648, 917 P.2d 940, 944 (1996). However, bad faith has not been  
23       found where the defendant can question the accuracy of tests or examinations by  
24       means different from an independent evaluation of the evidence itself. City of Las  
25       Vegas v. O’Donnell, 100 Nev. 491, 493-494, 686 P.2d 228, 230 (1984). Furthermore,  
26       this Court has held that it is not bad faith for the government to follow its own  
27       standard procedures. Id. at 494, 230.

28       In this case, Welch, a forensic scientist with thirty years of experience, testified  
that he followed his typical policy regarding developing a DNA profile from breast

1 swabs. AA 514. Welch testified that he typically used two breast swabs to attempt to  
2 create a DNA profile because in his past experiences the use of one breast swab would  
3 often lead to poor or inconclusive results. AA 514. In his expert opinion, it was  
4 necessary for him to use both breast swabs in order to have the best chance of  
5 developing a DNA profile for the person who sexually assaulted Julie. AA 514. It  
6 would have been impossible for the State to conduct any type of joint testing with the  
7 Defendant at the time because the Defendant was not even a suspect at this time. An  
8 extraction of the breast swab remained, was preserved and was made available for any  
9 retests requested by Defendant. AA 504, 514. Therefore, it cannot be argued that  
10 Welch acted in bad faith when he used both breast swabs.

11 Defendant argues that the State acted in bad faith by doing final testing in July  
12 2005, when the State was aware that he had counsel, which destroyed the remaining  
13 DNA material. Deft. Opening Brief, p. 6. This argument is disingenuous and factually  
14 inaccurate. The State did test additional vaginal swabs, as well as the bedsheets and a  
15 bathrobe<sup>9</sup> for DNA material in July 2005, but there is no indication in the record that  
16 any of these items were destroyed or unavailable for retesting. As stated above, the  
17 State did preserve parts of two vaginal swabs and the bedsheets. AA 533. Therefore,  
18 the Defendant's ability to retest the materials was not destroyed but was instead  
19 preserved.

20 **2. The Defendant was not prejudiced by the State's  
handling of the DNA material.**

21 Defendant has failed to show that the State could reasonably anticipate that if  
22 the State preserved a breast swab it would have been exculpatory and material to the  
23 defense. Leonard, 117 Nev. At 68, 17 P.3d at 407 (citation omitted). In fact, the record  
24 in this case plainly indicates that a retest would not have been exculpatory. The record  
25 not only shows that DNA profile from the breast swabs matched the Defendant's  
26 DNA profile but so did the independently tested DNA profiles derived from the  
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<sup>9</sup> The bathrobe ended upon not containing any DNA material. AA 534.

1 bedsheet and the vaginal swabs – both of which were examined under an even stricter  
2 standard then the breast swabs. AA 534-535.

3 While Defendant claims in his opening brief that there were several areas where  
4 the examination of the DNA material could be called in question, he fails to point to a  
5 single place in the record that indicates that questionable methods or tactics were  
6 utilized by the LVMPD forensic laboratory.<sup>10</sup> The Defendant retained his own DNA  
7 expert, but never offered testimony regarding the scientific methods or tactics used by  
8 the LVMPD forensic laboratory. As stated in Leonard, “a mere-hoped for conclusion  
9 is not enough to satisfy the Defendant’s burden in showing that he suffered undue  
10 prejudice. Id. Thus, Defendant’s mere hoping that Welch was wrong with his analysis  
11 of the breast swabs is not enough to show the Defendant was unduly prejudiced and  
12 this Court should uphold his conviction and the district court’s ruling.

13 **II**  
14 **THE DISTRICT COURT’S DENIAL OF DEFENDANT’S**  
15 **REQUESTED ALTERNATIVE RELIEF DID NOT VIOLATE HIS**  
16 **RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS**

17 Defendant alleges that the district court’s failure to grant him alternative relief  
18 after its denial of his Motion to Dismiss constitutes a violation of his right to due  
19 process. The Defendant makes this argument by essentially reasserting the arguments  
20 he utilized in Argument I.

21 The Defendant claims that the State should have been precluded from  
22 presenting evidence regarding the DNA because of its failure to preserve the DNA  
23 sample. As stated above, the Defendant misstated the record; uncontested testimony  
24 shows that the DNA material was preserved and that the Defendant chose not to retest  
25 it.<sup>11</sup>

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27 <sup>10</sup> Defendant also refers to the breast swab as the “sole piece of evidence linking him to the crime scene . Deft. Opening  
28 Brief, p. 7. This is not true. There are several other pieces of evidences that link him to the crime scene besides the breast  
swabs including the semen found in the vaginal swabs and the semen found on the bedsheet.

<sup>11</sup> See Argument I.

1           Additionally, the Defendant claims that the district court erred by not issuing a  
2     Sanborn instruction to the jury instructing them that the DNA material *did not* match  
3     the Defendant. In Sanborn v. State, 107 Nev. 399, 812 P.2d 1279 (1991), the police  
4     failed to test a weapon that was used to shoot the defendant, in order to determine  
5     whether the weapon had been used by the victim and consequently, whether the  
6     defendant had been acting in self-defense. The Court held that the defendant was  
7     entitled to an instruction adverse to the State, because “the State’s case was buttressed  
8     by the absence of this evidence. Therefore, the State cannot be allowed to benefit in  
9     such a manner from its failure to preserve evidence. Id., 107 Nev. at 408, 912 P.2d  
10    at 1286.

11           This case is easily distinguishable from Sanborn. In Sanborn, the gun was  
12    clearly a piece of exculpatory evidence that was mishandled and never tested by  
13    police. In this case, the breast swabs were properly handled according to the policy of  
14    the forensics laboratory and the extraction was preserved so the Defendant could have  
15    it retested. Additionally, besides the Defendant’s bare and unsupportive assertions,  
16    there was no indication that breasts swabs would be exculpatory. Although the  
17    Defendant did retain a DNA expert, that expert did not testify that such swabs could  
18    be exculpatory. This is especially true, when one considers that two other pieces of  
19    evidence obtained from the sexual assault examination kit also identified the  
20    Defendant as the assailant with reasonable scientific certainty.

21           Defendant has failed to show how the State failed to properly preserve the DNA  
22    material or how the district court’s denial of his motion to dismiss entitled him to  
23    alternative relief. Consequently, no jury instruction was warranted nor was there any  
24    need to exclude the DNA evidence.

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**III**  
**THE DISTRICT COURT DID NOT ERR IN DENYING**  
**DEFENDANT’S MOTION IN LIMINE**

Defendant in his opening brief makes the same argument he put forward in his Motion-in-Limine to Preclude “Prosecutor’s Fallacy, Arguments Regarding the DNA Material. Basically in citing Brown v. Farwell, he argues that it is improper for the State to present statistical evidence that “confuses source probability with random match probability. Brown v. Farwell, 525 F.3d 787, 795 (9th Cir. 2008). Defendant goes on to argue that “random match probability is acceptable but “giving a percentage that the DNA was found to be Joseph Henderson was impermissible.<sup>12</sup> Appellant’s Opening Brief, p. 8. Noticeably absent in Defendant’s brief is any citation to the record that the prosecutors in this case actually made such an error. That is because neither the prosecutors nor any of the State’s witnesses ever offered the jury a source probability percentage but instead used the acceptable, but overwhelming, random match probability number (six hundred billion to one).

Additionally, this case is distinguishable from Brown in several ways. Brown involved a sexual assault case that occurred in 1994 in Washoe County, Nevada. The defendant in that case had four brothers living in the same vicinity. One of the defendant’s brothers was actually identified as the assailant at one point in the investigation by the victim. Brown, 525 F.3d at 796. The defense also provided an expert report which attacked the Washoe County DNA expert methodology. Brown, 525 F.3d at 792. Specifically, the Ninth Circuit found the Washoe County DNA expert testimony was unreliable because of the prosecutor’s fallacy and his failure to account for the logical implications of having four brothers in the same vicinity. Brown, 525 F.3d at 796-797.

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<sup>12</sup> The misuse of testimony confusing random match probability with source probability is referred to as “prosecutor’s fallacy” in Brown. Brown, 525 F.3d at 795.

1 In this case, unlike Brown, the prosecutors did not misuse statistics by  
2 confusing random match probability with source probability nor was there any expert  
3 report provided by the Defendant that the methodology used by the LVMPD forensics  
4 lab was unreliable or failed to account for something unique about the matter.<sup>13</sup>  
5 Additionally, there was no evidence in the record that people with similar DNA as the  
6 Defendant (like brothers) were in the same vicinity during the night in question.  
7 Finally, due to the limitations of DNA technology in 1994, the DNA expert in Brown  
8 was only able to give a random match probability number of three millions to one.  
9 Due to the advances made in DNA technology, the LVMPD forensic scientists were  
10 able to give a random match probability in this case of six hundred billion to one in  
11 2004.

12 Defendant also argues that State's experts should be precluded from arguing  
13 that identity is assumed due to reasons already mentioned in the brief – namely the  
14 prosecutor's fallacy argument. As stated above and as shown in the record, the  
15 prosecutors in the case at bar did not commit such an error. Additionally, the LVMPD  
16 DNA laboratory uses a high threshold (six hundred billion to one) for determination  
17 of an identity threshold. Since six hundred billion is more than hundred times the  
18 earth's population at the time of the testing, the LVMPD forensic scientist can state  
19 with reasonable degree of scientific certainty that Defendant was the source of the  
20 foreign DNA material in the sexual assault examination. AA 531-532; Gaines v.  
21 State, 116 Nev. 359, 370, 998 P. 2d 166, 173 (2000) (recognizing DNA testing as a  
22 tool that can be used to accurately identify a criminal attempting to conceal his  
23 identity). Therefore, the district court was correct to deny Defendant's Motion in  
24 Limine.

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28 <sup>13</sup> Defendant did allegedly retain a DNA expert for consulting purposes but no expert report was ever produced nor did the Defendant put his expert on the stand to contradict the findings or methodology used by the State. AA 311-312.

**IV**  
**THE DISTRICT COURT PROPERLY DENIED DEFENDANT’S MOTION  
FOR A MISTRIAL AFTER THE TESTIMONY OF KIM MURGA**

**A. The State’s Notice Of Kim Murga As An Expert Witness 20 Days Prior To  
Trial Did Not Violate The Defendant’s Right To Due Process.**

Defendant argues that his rights were violated by the testimony of Kim Murga (“Murga”) because, among other things, the State noticed her one day late. Defendant makes this assertion despite his trial counsel acknowledgment to the district court that he was made aware of the possibility of Murga testifying “way more than 21 days prior to the trial. AA 568.

This Court has held that a district court’s decision whether to allow an unendorsed witness to testify is to be examined for abuse of discretion. Mitchell v. State, \_\_ Nev. \_\_, 192 P.3d 721, 729 (2008). The district court has broad discretion in fashioning a remedy for violation of discovery statute, and it does not abuse its discretion absent a showing that the state acted in bad faith or that the nondisclosure caused substantial prejudice to the defendant which was not alleviated by the court's order. Evans v. State, 117 Nev. 609, 637, 28 P.3d 498, 518 (2001), Langford v. State, 95 Nev. 631, 635, 600 P.2d 231, 234 (1979), Maginnis v. State, 93 Nev. 173, 176, 561 P.2d 922, 923(1977). Defendant cannot and does not demonstrate either an abuse of discretion or that the State acted in bad faith.

In this case, the prosecutor for State stated the reason for the one day late disclosure was that she was unsure twenty-one days before the trial if Welch (who had retired from LVMPD) would be available to testify as a DNA expert and she was trying to ensure the State had a DNA expert available. AA 567. The district court found good cause for the excusal of the one day shortfall in notice. AA 569. Nothing in Defendant’s brief asserts why the district court judge ruling that there was good cause for the delay was improper or how it was prejudicial.

1           **B. The State Did Not Violate Brady V. Maryland.**

2           The United States Supreme Court, in Brady v. Maryland, 373 U.S. 83, 83 S.Ct.  
3 1194 (1963), held that the Due Process Clause of the United States Constitution  
4 imposes upon the State a duty and obligation to disclose "evidence favorable to an  
5 accused upon request ... where the evidence is material either to guilt or to  
6 punishment, irrespective of the good faith or bad faith of the prosecution." 373 U.S. at  
7 87, 83 S.Ct. at 1197; *See also* Pennsylvania v. Ritchie, 480 U.S. 39, 57, 107 S.Ct. 989,  
8 1001 (1987). The evidence to which the Court referred was both exculpatory evidence  
9 and impeachment evidence. Giglio v. United States, 405 U.S. 150, 154, 92 S.Ct. 763,  
10 766 (1972). *See also* United States v. Bagley, 473 U.S. 667, 676, 105 S.Ct. 3375,  
11 3380, 87 L.Ed.2d 481, 490 (1985). The duty to disclose such evidence also applies  
12 whether or not there has been a request for such evidence by the accused. United  
13 States v. Agurs, 427 U.S. 97, 107, 96 S.Ct. 2392, 2399 (1976).

14           Having mandated in Brady, that "the suppression by the prosecution of  
15 evidence favorable to an accused upon request violates due process where the  
16 evidence is material either to guilt or to punishment, irrespective of the good faith or  
17 bad faith of the prosecution," 373 U.S. at 87, 83 S.Ct. at 1197, the Supreme Court has  
18 outlined the three elements of a Brady violation. Strickler v. Greene, 527 U.S. 263,  
19 281-282, 119 S.Ct. 1936, 1948, (1999). The Supreme Court has explained: "The  
20 evidence at issue must be favorable to the accused, either because it is exculpatory, or  
21 because it is impeaching; that evidence must have been suppressed by the State, either  
22 willfully or inadvertently; and prejudice must have ensued." 527 U.S. at 281-282, 119  
23 S.Ct. at 1948; *also see* Wade v. State, 115 Nev. 290, 295-296, 986 P.2d 438, 441  
24 (1999) (reversal for a Brady violation will only occur if there is a reasonable  
25 possibility that the trial would have been different if the suppressed documents had  
26 been disclosed to the defendant)

1 Murga was called by the State to discuss the DNA testing performed at the  
2 LVMPD forensic lab and her peer review of the testing in this matter.<sup>14</sup> Her notes do  
3 not constitute a violation of the principles stated in Brady. Nothing in Murga's two  
4 page note was favorable to the accused. The note according to the record lists what  
5 was included in the sexual assault examination kit, the mathematical formulas used to  
6 determine the random match probability of the DNA profile (the same formulas used  
7 by Guenther in her report) and a chronological list of events to help her familiarize  
8 herself with the file. AA 568-569. None of these items could reasonably be used to  
9 impeach a State witness or exculpate the Defendant.

10 Additionally, the Defendant was not prejudiced by Murga's two-page note  
11 because he was already aware of the information it contained. Murga created the note  
12 as a summary of the evidence. AA 569. All the information contained in Murga's note  
13 was made available to Defendant well before trial even if the actual note did not exist  
14 yet. AA 569. Defendant actually obtained full and complete analyses of the DNA  
15 evidence in late August 2008. AA 569. As the district court recognized, Murga's note  
16 were simply a supervisor's checklist of what occurred and a confirmation of the work  
17 performed by Welch and Guenther and in no way prejudices the defense. AA 569

18 **C. Murga's Testimony Was Not Improper.**

19 Murga's testimony was not impermissible vouching as suggested by the  
20 Defendant. She never commented on the veracity of Welch and Guenther; rather, she  
21 simply discussed the peer review she conducted on her co-workers in this matter and  
22 the results of that review. The peer review at the LVMPD forensic laboratory was  
23 brought up and questioned by both by the prosecutors and the Defendant's counsel  
24 during direct and cross-examination of Welch and Guenther. Therefore, testimony  
25 about the actual review and the findings from that review was appropriate.  
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28 <sup>14</sup> Defendant's counsel brought up the review process during cross-examination of the State's previous two DNA witnesses (AA 516, AA 536).

1 It is true that it is improper for one witness to vouch for the testimony of  
2 another and that an expert witness is not permitted to testify to the truthfulness of a  
3 witness. Marvelle v. State, 114 Nev. 921, 931, 966 P.2d 151, 158 (1998), abrogated  
4 on other grounds by Koerschner v. State, 116 Nev. 1111, 13 P.3d 451 (2000).  
5 However, Defendant's attempt to find support in Witherow v. State is misplaced  
6 because that case revolves around the prosecutor asserting his opinion of the veracity  
7 of a witness during closing arguments, which is improper. Witherow v. State, 104  
8 Nev. 721, 724, 765 P.2d 1153, 1155 (1988). In this case, there is no record that the  
9 prosecutor ever made similar statements regarding the veracity of a witness during the  
10 course of the trial nor does the Defendant even assert such a thing. Additionally,  
11 United States v. Sanchez is also easily distinguishable from this case. Sanchez  
12 revolved around the prosecutor's asking one witness direct questions about the  
13 veracity of another witness, which the Ninth Circuit found inappropriate. United  
14 States v. Sanchez, 176 F.3d 1214, 1219-1220 (9th Cir. 1999). In this case, the  
15 prosecutors asked Murga about her conclusions from her review of Welch's and  
16 Guenther's work per normal procedures at the LVMPD forensic laboratory, not about  
17 the veracity of their testimony.

18 The district court did not err in allowing Murga to testify regarding the peer  
19 review conducted at the LVMPD forensic laboratory. Her testimony did not constitute  
20 improper vouching for the truthfulness of other witnesses. The Defendant's claim  
21 must be denied.

22  
23 V

24 **DISTRICT COURT DID NOT ERR IN DENYING THE**  
25 **DEFENSE'S REQUEST NOT TO VOICE**  
**PEREMPTORY CHALLENGES IN OPEN COURT**

26 Defendant claims that he was prejudiced by the district court's failure to hear  
27 peremptory challenges outside the presence of the potential jury. However, noticeably  
28 absent from his is any reason why he thought he was prejudiced by the voice

1 peremptory challenge or any specific instance and trial where he was prejudiced by  
2 the voice peremptory challenges.<sup>15</sup>

3 In Foster v. State, 121 Nev. 165, 111 P.3d 1083 (Nev. 2005), this Court  
4 enunciated a strong preference, not a mandate, that the state trial courts “should assure  
5 that all peremptory challenges during jury selection are exercised and considered  
6 outside the presence of the jury venire. Id., 121 Nev. At 173, 111 P.3d at 1089. The  
7 primary focus of the Foster Court was to eliminate jury bias. The language left it up  
8 to the discretion of the trial court in whether or not to actually conduct peremptory  
9 challenges outside of the jury, with the caveat that not adhering to the suggestion  
10 would subject the court to review but not necessarily a reversal.

11 Foster concerned a woman who was peremptorily challenged in the presence of  
12 the jury venire that was subsequently retained on the jury panel. This Court held that,  
13 notwithstanding the potential for bias, “[t]here [wa]s nothing in the record to suggest  
14 that the female juror who was peremptorily challenged and ultimately retained on the  
15 panel exhibited any bias or prejudice for or against either party and therefore “the  
16 reinstatement of the juror in question did not offend Foster's rights under the United  
17 States or Nevada Constitutions. 121 Nev. At 174, 111 P.3d at 1089. It is important  
18 to note that the Foster Court did not grant the defendant’s appeal even though the  
19 female juror was originally preempted and then reinstated<sup>16</sup> because it found that  
20 record did not indicate any bias by that juror. Unlike Foster, in this case there was no  
21 preemption of a potential juror who was later reinstated.

22 Similarly, in the instant case, there is nothing in the record to suggest that the  
23 mere exercise of peremptory challenges by both parties in the presence of the jury  
24

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25  
26 <sup>15</sup> Defendant’s counsel at trial did argue a hypothetical stating how the State’s striking of two young male potential  
27 jurors may cause similar situated individuals in the potential jury pool to change their answers to voir dire questions. AA  
28 410. However, Defendant’s counsel never explains how such potential jurors would change their answers or even how  
that would prejudice the Defendant. AA 410. Additionally, there were several male jurors seated in this case. Defendant  
never argues (at trial or in his brief) that he was prejudiced by the dismissal of those two jurors.

<sup>16</sup> The female juror was reinstated after a successful Batson challenge was issued by the prosecutor regarding the  
defense’s systematic pattern of striking all potential female jurors. Foster, 121 Nev. At 171, 111 P.3d at 1087.

1 venire prejudiced either party. Defendant counsel did not even bring up the situation  
2 until the second day of voir dire after numerous voice peremptory challenges were  
3 already made by both sides. Therefore, the district court did not err in denying the  
4 Defendant's request not to voice peremptory challenge.

5 **CONCLUSION**

6 For the foregoing reasons, Defendant's conviction and sentence should be  
7 affirmed.

8 Dated this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2009.

9 Respectfully submitted,

10 DAVID ROGER  
11 Clark County District Attorney  
12 Nevada Bar # 002781

13 BY /S/Steven S. Owens

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I hereby certify that I have read this appellate brief, and to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, it is not frivolous or interposed for any improper purpose. I further certify that this brief complies with all applicable Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure, in particular NRAP 28(e), which requires every assertion in the brief regarding matters in the record to be supported by appropriate references to the record on appeal. I understand that I may be subject to sanctions in the event that the accompanying brief is not in conformity with the requirements of the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure.

Dated this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2009.

Respectfully submitted

DAVID ROGER  
Clark County District Attorney  
Nevada Bar #002781

BY /S/Steven S. Owens

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify and affirm that this document was filed electronically with the Nevada Supreme Court on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 2009. Electronic Service of the foregoing document shall be made in accordance with the Master Service List as follows:

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## E-File

Respondent.

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Tracie K. Lindeman

(Appeal from Judgment of Conviction)

### Counsel for Respondent

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JOSEPH ALEXANDER HENDERSON, ) NO. 52573  
)  
Appellant, )  
)  
vs. )  
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THE STATE OF NEVADA, )  
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Respondent. )  
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JOSEPH ALEXANDER HENDERSON, ) NO. 52573  
)  
Appellant, ) **E-File**  
)  
vs. )  
)  
THE STATE OF NEVADA, )  
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Respondent. )  
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1 **II. AFTER DENYING THE DEFENSE MOTION TO DISMISS, THE**  
2 **COURT FAILED TO AFFORD MR. HENDERSON ALTERNATIVE**  
3 **RELIEF SOUGHT BY THE DEFENSE AND THEREBY VIOLATED HIS**  
4 **RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS.**

5 The Respondent argues that the Defense did not call a DNA expert to testify that the  
6 swabs could have been exculpatory. This is a senseless argument. There were no DNA samples  
7 to independently test. The Defense certainly could not perform its own extraction to prove the  
8 evidence was exculpatory. The very reason a Sanborn instruction was needed was because not  
9 enough of a DNA sample had been preserved for the Defense to independently test. Failure to  
10 provide Mr. Henderson relief from this impossible situation violated his constitutionally  
11 protected right to due process.

12 **III. THE COURT ERRED WHEN IT DENIED THE DEFENSE MOTION**  
13 **IN LIMINE AND THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD HAVE BEEN**  
14 **PRECLUDED FROM ARGUING AND PRESENTING EVIDENCE THAT**  
15 **JOSEPH HENDERSON'S IDENTITY IS ASSUMED AS A RESULT OF**  
16 **THE DNA TESTING.**

17 Issue III of Appellant's Opening Brief is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth  
18 in full in reply to Respondent's Answering Brief.

19 **IV. MR. HENDERSON'S RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS WAS VIOLATED**  
20 **WHEN THE COURT DENIED DEFENSE MOTION FOR A MISTRIAL**  
21 **AFTER THE TESTIMONY OF KIM MURGA.**

22 A. Issue IV(A) of Appellant's Opening Brief is hereby incorporated by reference as if  
23 set forth in full in reply to Respondent's Answering Brief.

24 B. The Respondent argues that none of Murga's notes could have been used to impeach  
25 her. Such an assumption can not be made when the Defense did not get a chance to have an  
26 expert look at the notes in order to evaluate if there was in fact potentially impeachment material  
27 in the notes. (During trial was the first that the Defense was aware of the notes and the trial  
28 court would only grant a few minutes break for the Defense to review the notes. (App. 565)

1 Certainly, not time to have the notes reviewed by a Defense expert, thereby violating the spirit  
2 of discovery rules. (App. 568)

3 The Respondent's claim that everything in the notes was the same information as the  
4 evidence given at trial, is not accurate. There were calculations and other notations not part of  
5 the testimony or the reports of Welch or Guenther. (App. 568-9) That was the problem. The  
6 Defense could not decipher nor analyze the notes without expert assistance. (App. 568-9)  
7 When the trial court inquired, "how is this beneficial to your case, Mr. Reed, assuming that you  
8 did inquire if the witness about these notes", Defense counsel how to answer, "That's a good  
9 question. If I could ask my expert I might be able to answer that question. I can't. I don't know  
10 the answer to that question." (App. 569) The ability to mount an informed defense was  
11 compromised. Accordingly, Mr. Henderson's constitutional right to due process was violated  
12 and his conviction should be vacated.

13 C. Issue IV(C) of Appellant's Opening Brief is hereby incorporated by reference as if  
14 set forth in full in reply to Respondent's Answering Brief.

15  
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18 **V. MR. HENDERSON WAS DENIED A FAIR TRIAL WHEN THE JURY**  
19 **POOL WAS TAINTED BY THE FACT THAT THE DISTRICT COURT**  
20 **DENIED THE DEFENSE REQUEST NOT TO VOICE PEREMPTORY**  
21 **CHALLENGES IN OPEN COURT.**

22 Respondent argues there was no showing of prejudice resulting from the trial court's  
23 denial of the Defense request not to voice peremptory challenges in open court. However,  
24 because the peremptory challenges were made in open court, any potential jurors that were  
25 questioned following each preempt could then tailor their answers to voir dire based on their  
26 perception(s) as to why any previously excused juror was dismissed. This affects the ability and  
27 willingness of potential juror to honestly respond to voir dire. (The practice advocated by this  
28 Court in **Foster** assures much more open and honest responses to voir dire by potential jurors,

1 and therefore a more fair trial for all the parties.) By allowing peremptory challenges in open  
2 court, the trial court denied Mr. Henderson a fair trial.

3  
4 **CONCLUSION**

5 In light of the various errors associated with Mr. Henderson's trial, the judgment of  
6 conviction should be vacated.

7 Respectfully submitted,


8 PHILIP J. KOHN  
9 CLARK COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER

10  
11 By: 

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DATED this 30th day of July, 2009.

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BY   
Employee, Clark County Public  
Defender's Office

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA


JOSEPH ALEXANDER HENDERSON,  
Appellant,  
vs.  
THE STATE OF NEVADA,  
Respondent.

No. 52573

**FILED**

**FEB 03 2010**

ORDER OF AFFIRMANCE

TRACEE K. LINDEMAN  
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
BY  DEPUTY CLERK

This is an appeal from a judgment of conviction, pursuant to a jury verdict, of conspiracy to commit burglary, burglary with the use of a firearm, conspiracy to commit first-degree kidnapping, two counts of first-degree kidnapping with the use of a deadly weapon, conspiracy to commit sexual assault, three counts of sexual assault with the use of a deadly weapon, conspiracy to commit robbery, two counts of robbery with the use of a deadly weapon, open or gross lewdness, and battery with a deadly weapon resulting in substantial bodily harm. Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County; Donald M. Mosley, Judge. Appellant Joseph Henderson raises four claims of error.

First, Henderson claims that the district court erred by denying his motion to dismiss the information and alternative motion to preclude the State's DNA evidence based on the State's alleged consumption of all of the available DNA material. Because Henderson's claim that the State did not preserve DNA material from each sample for defense retesting is belied by the record, we conclude that the district court did not abuse its discretion. See Hill v. State, 124 Nev. \_\_\_, \_\_\_, 188 P.3d 51, 54 (2008).

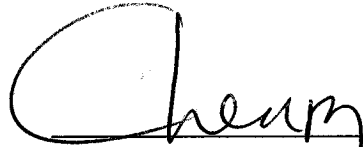


Second, Henderson claims that the district court erred by denying his pretrial motion to preclude the improper use of DNA evidence. Henderson does not allege that any improper DNA evidence or argument was presented to the jury, and therefore we conclude that this claim is wholly without merit.

Third, Henderson claims that the district court erred by denying a motion for mistrial and an alternative motion to strike the testimony of expert witness Kim Murga. Henderson's motion was based on three grounds: (1) Murga was noticed as a witness one day late, (2) her notes were not disclosed to the defense prior to her testimony, and (3) she improperly vouched for another witness. We conclude that the district court did not clearly abuse its discretion when it denied the motion and determined that (1) the State had good cause for its one-day delay in noticing Murga as a witness, (2) the State was not required to disclose Murga's personal summary of official reports already provided to the defense, and (3) Murga's testimony that another expert followed proper procedures in performing his DNA analysis was not improper. See Randolph v. State, 117 Nev. 970, 981, 36 P.3d 424, 431 (2001); Hernandez v. State, 124 Nev. \_\_\_, \_\_\_, 188 P.3d 1126, 1131 (2008).

Finally, Henderson claims that the district court erred when it required him to voice his peremptory challenges in open court. Although we have previously stated "our strong preference that . . . peremptory challenges during jury selection [be] exercised and considered outside the presence of the jury," Foster v. State, 121 Nev. 165, 174, 111 P.3d 1083, 1089 (2005), we have never mandated such procedures. And because Henderson fails to show prejudice, we deny relief on this claim.

Having considered Henderson's claims and concluded that no relief is warranted, we

ORDER the judgment of conviction AFFIRMED.

 \_\_\_\_\_, J.  
Cherry  
 \_\_\_\_\_, J.  
Saitta  
 \_\_\_\_\_, J.  
Gibbons

cc: Hon. Donald M. Mosley, District Judge  
Clark County Public Defender  
Attorney General/Carson City  
Clark County District Attorney  
Eighth District Court Clerk

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

JOSEPH ALEXANDER HENDERSON,  
Appellant,  
vs.  
THE STATE OF NEVADA,  
Respondent.

Supreme Court No. 52573

District Court Case No. C212968

REMITTITUR

TO: Steven D. Grierson, Clark District Court Clerk

Pursuant to the rules of this court, enclosed are the following:

Certified copy of Judgment and Opinion/Order.  
Receipt for Remittitur.

DATE: March 2, 2010

Tracie Lindeman, Clerk of Court

By:

Deputy Clerk

*A. Ingersoll*

cc (without enclosures):

Hon. Donald M. Mosley, District Judge  
Attorney General/Carson City  
Clark County District Attorney  
Clark County Public Defender

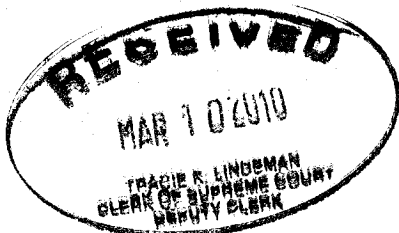
RECEIPT FOR REMITTITUR

Received of Tracie Lindeman, Clerk of the Supreme Court of the State of Nevada, the  
REMITTITUR issued in the above-entitled cause, on MAR 05 2010

Deputy

District Court Clerk

*Walter L. Griffin*



RECEIVED

MAR 04 2010

CLERK OF THE COURT

10-04356<sup>105</sup>

FILED  
MAR 11 2010  
TRACIE K. LINDEMAN  
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
BY *A. Ingersoll*  
DEPUTY CLERK

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

JOSEPH ALEXANDER HENDERSON,  
Appellant,

vs.

THE STATE OF NEVADA,  
Respondent.

Supreme Court No. 52573

District Court Case No. C212968

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATE**

STATE OF NEVADA, ss.

I, Tracie Lindeman, the duly appointed and qualified Clerk of the Supreme Court of the State of Nevada, do hereby certify that the following is a full, true and correct copy of the Judgment in this matter.

**JUDGMENT**

The court being fully advised in the premises and the law, it is now ordered, adjudged and decreed, as follows: "ORDER the judgment of conviction AFFIRMED."

Judgment, as quoted above, entered this 3rd day of February, 2010.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my name and affixed  
the seal of the Supreme Court at my Office in Carson City,  
Nevada, this 2nd day of March, 2010.

Tracie Lindeman, Supreme Court Clerk

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

*A. Ingersoll*

