

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT CLERK OF THE COURT

REGIONAL JUSTICE CENTER 200 LEWIS AVENUE, 3rd FI. LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89155-1160 (702) 671-4554 Electronically Filed Jul 10 2017 01:11 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

> Brandi J. Wendel Court Division Administrator

Steven D. Grierson Clerk of the Court

July 10, 2017

Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of the Court 201 South Carson Street, Suite 201 Carson City, Nevada 89701-4702

RE: STATE OF NEVADA vs. DAIMON MONROE S.C. CASE: 72944

D.C. CASE: 06C228752-1

Dear Ms. Brown:

In response to the e-mail dated July 10, 2017, enclosed is a certified copy of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order filed May 5, 2017 in the above referenced case. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (702) 671-0512.

Sincerely,

STEVEN D. GRIERSON, CLERK OF THE COURT

Heather Ungermann, Deputy Clerk

1 **FCL** STEVEN B. WOLFSON Clark County District Attorney Nevada Bar #001565 2 **Electronically Filed** 05/05/2017 02:11:49 PM 3 STEVEN S. OWENS Chief Deputy District Attorney 4 Nevada Bar #004352. 200 Lewis Avenue 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89155-2212 **CLERK OF THE COURT** (702) 671-2500 6 Attorney for Plaintiff 7 DISTRICT COURT 8 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 9 THE STATE OF NEVADA, 10 Plaintiff. 11 -vs-CASE NO: 06C228752-1 12 DAIMON MONROE. DEPT NO: XX aka Daimon Devi Hoyt, #0715429 13 Defendant. 14 15 FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER 16 DATE OF HEARING: MARCH 28, 2017 17 TIME OF HEARING: 8:30 A.M. THIS CAUSE having come on for hearing before the Honorable ERIC JOHNSON. 18 19 District Judge, on the 28th day of March, 2017, the Petitioner not being present, PROCEEDING IN PROPER PERSON, the Respondent being represented by STEVEN B. 20 WOLFSON, Clark County District Attorney, by and through ALICIA A. ALBRITTON, Chief 21 Deputy District Attorney, and the Court having considered the matter, including briefs, 22 23 transcripts, arguments of counsel, and documents on file herein, now therefore, the Court makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law: 24 25 FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW On December 13, 2006, a Clark County Grand Jury returned an Indictment charging 26 27 DAIMON MONROE, aka Daimon Devi Hoyt (hereinafter "Defendant") with COUNT 1 – 28 Conspiracy to Possess Stolen Property and/or to Commit Burglary (Gross Misdemeanor -

NRS 205.275, 199.480) and COUNTS 2-27 – Possession of Stolen Property (Felony – NRS 205.275).¹

On January 16, 2008, Defendant was charged in Case Number 08F01002X with three counts of Solicitation to Commit Murder. The State alleged that Defendant's intended victims were Judge Michelle Leavitt, a detective with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, and Deputy District Attorney Sandra DiGiacomo, who was the prosecutor assigned to the instant case. On May 3, 2008, Defendant filed a motion with this Court to disqualify Ms. DiGiacomo and the entire Clark County District Attorney's Office from this case. The State responded in opposition on May 8, 2008. This Court denied that motion at a hearing on May 12, 2008.

That same day, a seven-day jury trial commenced. On May 20, 2008, the jury returned a verdict convicting Defendant on all 27 counts as charged. On October 1, 2008, Defendant was sentenced as follows: COUNT 1 – 12 months in the Clark County Detention Center ("CCDC") and COUNTS 2-27 – Life without the Possibility of Parole in the Nevada Department of Corrections ("NDC"). COUNTS 15-27 were ordered to run concurrent with each other but consecutive to COUNTS 1-14. The entire sentence was ordered to run consecutive to Defendant's sentence in Case Number C227874. Defendant received zero days credit for time served. The Judgment of Conviction was entered on November 4, 2008.

Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal on November 19, 2008. On July 30, 2010, the Nevada Supreme Court affirmed the Judgment of Conviction in part and reversed in part, finding that there was not sufficient evidence to convict Defendant on COUNT 11. The case was remanded for this Court to amend the Judgment of Conviction accordingly. Remittitur issued on August 24, 2010.

This Court filed an Amended Judgment of Conviction on September 17, 2010, and vacated the conviction on COUNT 11. The remainder of the original Judgment of Conviction was affirmed.

¹ An Amended Indictment was filed on December 15, 2006, but the charging information remained the same as it pertained to the counts contained in the original Indictment. Another Amended Indictment was filed on May 1, 2008, removing the name of a co-defendant who previously entered into a Guilty Plea Agreement with the State.

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On July 7, 2011, Defendant filed a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus. Before this Court could rule on the Petition, Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal. Therefore, having no jurisdiction to hear the Petition, this Court dismissed it without prejudice on February 7, 2012. On February 28, 2012, the Nevada Supreme Court dismissed Defendant's appeal.

On March 29, 2013, the State filed a motion with this Court requesting Defendant's Petition be decided on the merits. On May 20, 2014, this Court denied Defendant's Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus in its entirety. Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal from that denial on June 4, 2014. The Nevada Supreme Court affirmed this Court's ruling on November 14, 2015.

Defendant filed a pro per motion for transport on October 18, 2016. The State responded on November 2, 2016. This Court denied the motion on November 8, 2016.

Defendant filed the instant Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus on December 16, 2016. On December 28, 2016, he filed a Notion of Motion, wherein he provided more argument on his Petition. The State responded on March 13, 2017.

Defendant's Petition is barred by NRS 34.726(1) and as successive. Additionally, his claims regarding the search and seizure were addressed by the Nevada Supreme Court and are governed by law of the case, his claims that the State obstructed justice are bare and naked, and his claims of ineffective assistance are belied by the record. All other claims should have been raised on direct appeal. Thus, this Court orders that this Petition be DENIED.

Pursuant to NRS 34.726(1):

Unless there is good cause shown for delay, a petition that challenges the validity of a judgment or sentence must be filed within I year of the entry of the judgment of conviction or, if an appeal has been taken from the judgment, within I year after the Supreme Court issues its remittitur. For the purposes of this subsection, good cause for delay exists if the petitioner demonstrates to the satisfaction of the court:

(a) That the delay is not the fault of the petitioner; and (b) That dismissal of the petition as untimely will unduly prejudice the petitioner.

As per the language of the statute, the one-year time bar proscribed by NRS 34.726 begins to run from the date the judgment of conviction is filed or a remittitur from a timely direct appeal is filed. <u>Dickerson v. State</u>, 114 Nev. 1084, 1087, 967 P.2d 1132, 1133-34 (1998).

Remittitur from Defendant's direct appeal was issued on August 24, 2010. The instant Petition was not filed until December 16, 2016. This is over six years after the Judgment of Conviction was filed and in excess of the one-year time frame.

Defendant has not even alleged good cause to overcome the procedural bar, and therefore has fallen short of demonstrating that any exists. Therefore, this Petition is denied.

Additionally, the Petition is successive. NRS 34.810(2) reads:

A second or successive petition *must* be dismissed if the judge or justice determines that it fails to allege new or different grounds for relief and that the prior determination was on the merits or, if new and different grounds are alleged, the judge or justice finds that the failure of the petitioner to assert those grounds in a prior petition constituted an abuse of the writ.

(emphasis added). Second or successive petitions will only be decided on the merits if the petitioner can show good cause and prejudice. NRS 34.810(3); <u>Lozada v. State</u>, 110 Nev. 349, 358, 871 P.2d 944, 950 (1994).

As Defendant has already filed a petition in this case (July 7, 2011), this second Petition, and the claims therein, amount to an abuse of the writ as being successive. Accordingly, the Petition is denied.

Even if this Petition was not time-barred and successive, this Court would not grant relief as none of Defendant's claim could succeed on the merits.

Defendant argues that there was no valid warrant authorizing search and seizure in this case. However, this claim is precluded by the law of the case.

"The law of a first appeal is law of the case on all subsequent appeals in which the facts are substantially the same." <u>Hall v. State</u>, 91 Nev. 314, 315, 535 P.2d 797, 798 (1975) (quoting <u>Walker v. State</u>, 85 Nev. 337, 343, 455 P.2d 34, 38 (1969)). Under the law of the case doctrine, issues previously decided on direct appeal may not be reargued in a habeas petition. <u>Pellegrini</u>

v. State, 117 Nev. 860, 879, 34 P.3d 519, 532 (2001) (citing McNelton v. State, 115 Nev. 396, 414-15, 990 P.2d 1263, 1275 (1999)).

On his direct appeal, Defendant raised the same issue on the same grounds. The Nevada Supreme Court found that this Court "did not err in refusing to suppress the evidence gathered as a result of the searches of [Defendant]'s property." Monroe v. State, Docket No. 52916 (Order of Affirmance, July 30, 2010) at 4-5. Accordingly, this issue has been decided and cannot be re-litigated or reversed here. The claim is denied.

Moreover, Defendant's allegations that the State obstructed justice by refusing to provide him with discovery, and that the State engaged in a conspiracy to cover-up a lack of warrant, are waived, as well as bare and naked.

NRS 34.810(1) reads:

The court shall dismiss a petition if the court determines that:

- (a) The petitioner's conviction was upon a plea of guilty or guilty but mentally ill and the petition is not based upon an allegation that the plea was involuntarily or unknowingly or that the plea was entered without effective assistance of counsel.
- (b) The petitioner's conviction was the result of a trial and the grounds for the petition could have been:
- (2) Raised in a direct appeal or a prior petition for a writ of habeas corpus or post-conviction relief.

Because both of these issues were appropriate for direct appeal – they do not involve ineffective assistance or challenge the validity of a guilty plea – they should have been raised there first. As they were not, they are waived in all subsequent proceedings, including on this habeas petition. Thus, they are denied.

Additionally, "bare" and "naked" allegations are not sufficient to warrant post-conviction relief, nor are those belied and repelled by the record. <u>Hargrove v. State</u>, 100 Nev. 498, 502, 686 P.2d 222, 225 (1984).

Defendant has not cited to any facts in the record, nor has he provided this court with any other evidence that suggests his claims are true. Therefore, these claims are bare and naked and insufficient to warrant relief and are denied.

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Finally, Defendant alleges that he received ineffective assistance of counsel. Specifically, he argues that counsel was ineffective for failing to investigate and challenge the matter of the search warrant. But this claim is belied by the record.

The Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution provides that, "[i]n all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right . . . to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense." The United States Supreme Court has long recognized that "the right to counsel is the right to the effective assistance of counsel." Strickland v. Washington, 466 U.S. 668, 686, 104 S. Ct. 2052, 2063 (1984); see also State v. Love, 109 Nev. 1136, 1138, 865 P.2d 322, 323 (1993). To prevail on a claim of ineffective assistance of trial counsel, a defendant must prove he was denied "reasonably effective assistance" of counsel by satisfying the two-prong test of Strickland, 466 U.S. at 686-87, 104 S. Ct. at 2063-64. See also Love, 109 Nev. at 1138, 865 P.2d at 323. Under the Strickland test, a defendant must show first that his counsel's representation fell below an objective standard of reasonableness, and second, that but for counsel's errors, there is a reasonable probability that the result of the proceedings would have been different. 466 U.S. at 687-88, 694, 104 S. Ct. at 2065.

Defendant has failed to demonstrate either deficient performance or prejudice. First, his claim regarding counsel's performance is belied by the record. Counsel did challenge the matter in this Court, as evidenced by the Nevada Supreme Court's use of the abuse of discretion standard of review rather than reviewing it for plain error. See Monroe, Docket No. 52916 (Order of Affirmance, July 30, 2010) at 4-5. Therefore, this claim is belied by the record and, thus, insufficient to demonstrate deficient performance.

Further, Defendant has not alleged that if counsel had performed differently the outcome of this case would have been different. Therefore, has failed to demonstrate prejudice. As he has not demonstrated both deficient performance and prejudice, he has failed to show that counsel was ineffective. Accordingly, this claim is denied.

Because this Court finds that the Petition is time-barred and successive, as well as completely devoid of merit, the Petition is denied.

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1 ;	<u>URDER</u>
2	THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Petition for Post-Conviction Relief
3	shall be, and it is, hereby denied.
4	DATED this day of April, 2017.
5	
6	DISTRICT JUDGE 1
7	STEVEN B. WOLFSON Clark County District Attorney Nevada Bar #001565
	Nevada Bar #001505
9	BY MACDONALD
11	Deputy District Actorney Nevada Bar #012615
12	
13	
14	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
15	I certify that on the 17th day of April, 2017, I mailed a copy of the foregoing proposed
16	Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order to:
17	DAIMON MONROE,
18	aka Daimon Devi Hoyt #38299 HIGH DESERT STATE PRISON
19	P.O. BOX 650 INDIAN SPRINGS, NV 89018
20	P Jahren
21	R. JOHNSON
22	Secretary for the District Attorney's Office
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	AWR/RJM/rj/M-1



200 Lewis Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89155-1160 (702) 671-4554 Clerk of the Courts
Steven D. Grierson

July 10, 2017 Case No.: 06C228752-1

CERTIFICATION OF COPY

Steven D. Grierson, the Clerk of the Court of the Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, State of Nevada, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, full, and correct copy of the hereinafter stated original document(s):

Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order filed 05/05/2017



now on file and of

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Eighth Judicial District Court at my office, Las Vegas, Nevada, at 11:18 AM on July 10, 2017.

STEVEN D. GRIERSON, CLERK OF THE COURT