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1	Case No. CV0020479	
2	Dept. No. 2 2020 APR 10 PM 4:01	
3	TATH RAE SPERO DIST. COURT CLERK	
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5		
6	IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA	
7	IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT	
8		•
9		
10	Mark L. Sharp,) Petitionert.)	
11	-vs-)	
12) The State of Nevada, Respondent,)	
13		
14	CASE APPEAL STATEMENT	
15	1. Name of appellant filing this case appeal statement: Mark L. Sharp.	
16	2. Identify the judge issuing the decision, judgment, or order appealed from: Honorable Michael R.	
17	Montero, Sixth Judicial District Court Judge in and for the State of Nevada. Order Denying Request	
18	for a Hearing.	
19	3. Identify each appellant and the name and address of counsel for each appellant: Mark L. Sharp -	1
20	Petitioner In Pro Se - P O Box 593 Carlin, Nevada 89822.	
21	4. Identify each respondent and the name and address of appellate counsel, if known, for each	
22	respondent (if the name of a respondent's appellate counsel is unknown, indicate as much and	
23	provide the name and address of that respondent's trial counsel): Humboldt County District Attorney	
24	Michael Macdonald PO Box 909 Winnemucca, NV 89446	
25	5. Indicate whether any attorney identified above in response to question 3 or 4 Is not licensed to	
26	practice law in Nevada and, if so, whether the district court granted that attorney permission to	
27	appear under SCR 42 (attach a copy of any district court order granting such permission): N/A	
28	6. Indicate whether appellant was represented by appointed or retained counsel in the district court:	

- 1 Appellant appeared In Pro Se for the matter being appealed.
- 2 7. Indicate whether appellant is represented by appointed or retained counsel on appeal: In Pro Se
- 3 8. Indicate whether appellant was granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis, and the date entry of the
 4 district court order granting such leave: November 18, 2016.
- 5 9. Indicate the date the proceedings commenced in the district court (e.g. date complaint, indictment, information, or petition was filed): August 18, 2015.
- 7 10. Provide a brief description of the nature of the action and result in the district court, including the
 8 type of judgment or order being appealed and the relief granted by the district court: Petitioner file
 9 a Request for Hearing and the Court denied his request.
- 10 11. Indicate whether the case has previously been the subject of an appeal to or original writ proceeding
 in the Supreme Court and, if so, the caption and Supreme Court docket number of the prior
 proceeding: Yes; Mark L. Sharp, Petitoner, vs. The State of Nevada, Respondent. Supreme Court
 No. 78240; Mark L. Sharp, Petitioner, vs. The State of Nevada, Respondent. Supreme Court No.
 72935.
- 15 12. Indicate whether this appeal involves child custody or visitation: No

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16 13. If this is a civil case, indicate whether this appeal involves the possibility of settlement: N/A
17 Dated this 10th day of April, 2020.

50 W. 5th St. #207 Winnemucca, NV 89445 (775) 623-6343

Sixth Judicial District Court - Humboldt County Run: 04/10/2020 Case Summary 14:58:53

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Case #: CV0020479

Judge: Montero, Michael R.

Date Filed: 08/13/2015 Department:

Case Type: HABEAS CORP/WRIT

Petitioner(s)

SHARP, MARK L

No *Attorney 1* Listed Respondent(s) Attorney(s) BACCA, I. WARDEN NDOC ATTORNEY GENERAL Respondent(s) Attorney(s) NEVADA, STATE OF No *Attorney 1* Listed

Attorney(s)

Hearings:

Date	Time	Hearing
03/06/2017	12:00AM	HEARING
06/21/2017	12:00AM	HEARING
10/03/2018	1:30PM	HEARING

Filings:

Date

Filing

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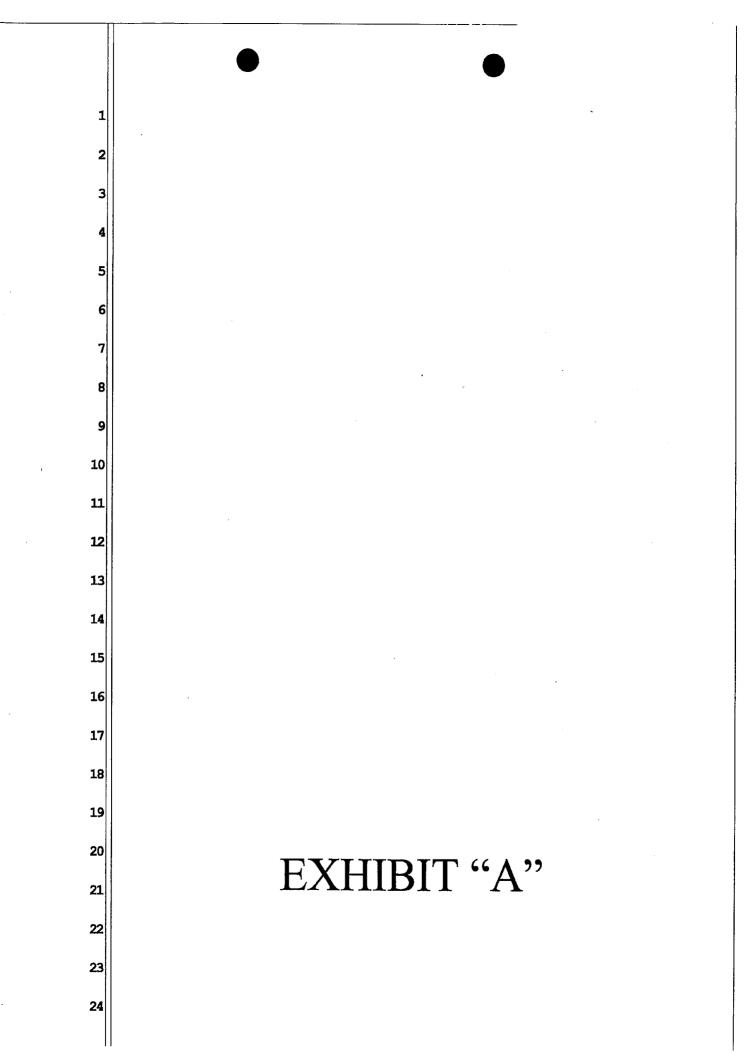
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		2	DEPT. NO. 11 2020 MAR 1 2 PM 12: 55
		3	TAMIDAE SPERO
		4	A Structure
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		6	IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
		7	-000-
T	, o	8	
		9	MARK L. SHARP,
IAL		10	Petitioner, vs.
DIC	CTT OUNT	11	ORDER DENYING REQUEST FORTHE STATE OF NEVADA ,A HEARING
D D	CHAEL CHAEL	12	Respondent.
XTH		13	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
$\mathbf{\tilde{N}}$		14	Before this Court is Petitioner, Mark L. Sharp's <i>Request for a Hearing</i> filed on
KT		15	March 10, 2020. The Court, in reviewing all prior filings, finds that the <i>Order</i> filed by this Court on
		16	December 13, 2019, complied with all requirements of the Court of Appeals Order
·		17	Affirming In Part, Reversing In Part and Remanding, filed on December 11, 2019.
		18	Attached hereto, as Exhibit "A".
		19	Accordingly, Petitioner's <i>Request for a Hearing</i> is DENIED . IT IS SO ORDERED.
		20	DATED: March 11, 2020.
		21	HONORABLE MICHAEL R. MONTERO DISTRICT JUDGE
		22	
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- ' <u>'</u> + •	
1	CASE NO. CV 20,479
2	DEPT. NO. II 2019 DEC 13 AM 10: 46
3	TAMI RAS OBCING
4	DIST-SOURT CLEAR
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6	IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA
7	IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT -000-
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9	MARK L. SHARP,
10	Petitioner,
11	vs.
12	THE STATE OF NEVADA,
13	Respondent.
14	FINDINGS OF FACT
15	This matter came before this Court for an Evidentiary Hearing on October 3, 2018 to
16	discuss the merits of Petitioner Mark L. Sharp's timely Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus
17	(Post-conviction) (Non Death), filed August 18, 2015. Also at issue at the October 3, 2018,
18	Evidentiary Hearing was Petitioner's Supplemental Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-
19	Conviction), filed January 29, 2018.
20	The State filed Respondent's Consolidated Response to Petitioner's Request for
21	Judgment on the Pleadings and to Petitioner's Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post
22	Conviction) on April 11, 2017. On October 3, 2018, the State filed State's Evidentiary
23	Hearing Brief and Response to Petitioner's Supplemental Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus
24	l

1 (Post-Conviction).

Petitioner entered a Guilty plea to one count of Trafficking in a Controlled SubstanceLevel II on January 13, 2014. The Trial Court accepted Petitioner's plea and sentenced him
on March 11, 2014. At all relevant times, Petitioner was represented by both Hy Forgeron,
Esq. and Theodore C. Herrera, Esq. For the sake of brevity, the two attorneys will generally
be referred to as "Counsel."

On January 28, 2019, this Court entered an ORDER denying Petitioner's Petition for
 Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-conviction) (Non Death), and Petitioner's Supplemental Petition
 for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-Conviction).

On December 11, 2019, the Nevada Court of Appeals issued an Order Affirming in
 Part, Reversing in Part and Remanding. This Court was directed to decide the following
 issues on their merits: Whether Petitioner's Counsel were ineffective for 1) failing to file a
 motion to suppress evidence due to defective search warrants and/or affidavits in support
 thereof, 2) assuring Petitioner that the district court would be lenient if he pleaded guilty and
 liquidated all of his local assets in order to cut ties with the community, and 3) failing to
 understand the elements of the crimes.

This ORDER addresses the issues on remand without further hearings as no further
hearings were ordered by the Court of Appeals, Petitioner was afforded the opportunity to
provide evidence regarding these claims at the October 3, 2018, Evidentiary Hearing, and the
record is more than sufficient to reach the conclusions outlined below.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Strickland sets forth a two-prong test requiring a petitioner to show that his counsel's performance fell below an objective standard of reasonableness and that his counsel's

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87 [hereinafter "ET"]. Petitioner even testified that his Counsel had discussed a motion to
suppress with him. ET at 116. Further, it was Counsels' strategy to file a writ of habeas corpus
first, and then file a motion to suppress if applicable—a strategy that Petitioner was aware of
and consented to. ET at 51-52, 84, 90. Finally, Petitioner told Counsel to direct their time and
resources into a strategy involving the DEA, rather than filing a motion to suppress. ET at 5354. To the extent that Petitioner's testimony is contradictory with Counsels' testimony, ET at
112, this Court finds his testimony less reliable than that of Counsels'

8 It would have been futile for Counsel to file a motion to suppress after Petitioner
9 pleaded guilty. Further, Counsels' decision to wait to file a motion to suppress cannot be said
10 to fall below an objective standard of reasonableness, especially when Petitioner directed his
11 attorneys to pursue different avenues and then pleaded guilty before a motion to suppress
12 could be filed. Consequently, this Court cannot find that Counsels' failure to file a motion to
13 suppress fell below an objective standard of reasonableness or was anything but sound
14 strategy.

The second issue directed to this Court by the Court of Appeals regards Petitioner's 15 Counsel assuring him the district court would be lenient if he pleaded guilty and liquidated 16 his assets to cut ties with the community. Petitioner's assertion is belied by the record. On 17 January 13, 2014, prior to entering his guilty plea, the following dialog occurred between the 18 District Court and Petitioner regarding Petitioner's written Guilty Plea Agreement: 19 20 THE COURT: Were there any promises of leniency that were made to you that caused you to sign this agreement, other than what's contained in it? THE DEFENDANT: I tried all the different angles I could come up with to 21 get some kind of agreement, and I couldn't get nothing out of either one of

> them. THE COURT: Okay. So everything that was - - everything that was promised to you is what's in this document, nothing more, correct?

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THE DEFENDANT: Nothing. THE COURT: Was that correct? THE DEFENDANT: Uh, yes, sir.

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May 29, 2014, Habeas Corpus Writ Hearing at 10-11 (Later changed to a Change of Plea Hearing) [hereinafter PHT].

Petitioner's January 13, 2014, Guilty Plea Agreement makes no reference to
Petitioner's Counsel assuring him that the district court would be lenient if he pleaded guilty
and liquidated his local assets in order to cut ties with the community. In fact, the Guilty Plea
Agreement states that Petitioner had "not been promised or guaranteed any particular sentence
by anyone." Consequently, Petitioner has failed to show that his Counsels' performance fell
below an objective standard of reasonableness as Petitioner cannot support his claim
factually.

Petitioner's final claim directed to this Court by the Court of Appeals alleges that
Counsel was ineffective for failing to understand the elements of the crime. Prior to pleading
guilty, the District Court asked Petitioner: "And do you understand then, Mr. Sharp, what the
State would have to prove in order to convict you of trafficking in a controlled substance,
Level II?" PHT at 6. Petitioner replied: "Yes, sir." PHT at 6.

Further, Petitioner and his Counsel signed the January 13, 2014, *Guilty Plea Agreement* in which the elements of the offense were clearly stated. The District Court read
the facts as applied to the elements of the offense directly from the *Guilty Plea Agreement*shortly after Petitioner entered his plea. PHT at 15-16. When asked if those facts were
accurate, Petitioner responded: "Yes, sir." PHT at 16. When asked if those facts had actually
occurred, Petitioner responded: "Yes sir." PHT at 16. Petitioner's Counsel were seasoned
attorneys, and there is no indication within the record that Petitioner or his Counsel failed to

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-		
1	understand the elements of the crime. Consequently, Petitioner has failed to show that his	
2	Counsels' performance fell below an objective standard of reasonableness as Petitioner	
3	cannot support his claim factually.	
4	CONCLUSION	
5	Petitioner's claims as outlined by the Nevada Court of Appeals are DENIED for the	
6	reasons stated above.	
7	IT IS SO ORDERED	
8	DATED: December $13, 2019.$	
9	HONORABLE MICHAEL R. MONTERO	
10	DISTRICT JUDGE	
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	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
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2	I hereby certify that I am an employee of the Honorable Michael R. Montero, District
3	Court Judge, Sixth Judicial District Court and am not a party to, nor interested in, this action;
4	and that on December 13 , 2019, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the enclosed
5	ORDER upon the following parties:
6	Mark Sharp P.O. Box 593
7	Carlin, NV 89822 Via U.S. Mail
8	Michael Macdonald
9	Humboldt County District Attorney P.O. Box 909
10	Winnemucca, NV 89446 Hand-delivered to Humboldt County Courthouse, DCT Box
11	Aaron Ford
12	Nevada Attorney General 100 N. Carson St.
13	Carson City, NV 89701 Via U.S. Mail
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15	Q AD
16	Shane M. Bell
17	Law Clerk
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1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE		
2	I hereby certify that I am an employee of the Honorable Michael R. Montero,		
3	District Court Judge, Sixth Judicial District Court and am not a party to, nor interested in,		
4	this action; and that on March _//, 2020, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of		
5	the enclosed ORDER DENYING REQUEST FOR A HEARING upon the following		
6	parties:		
7 8	Mark Sharp P.O. Box 593 Carlin, NV 89822 Via U.S. Mail		
9 10	Michael Macdonald Humboldt County District Attorney P.O. Box 909 Winnemucca, Nevada 89445		
11	DCT Box		
12 13	Aaron Ford Nevada Attorney General 100 N. Carson Street		
14	Carson City, Nevada 89701		
15			
16	Elisha Formby		
17	Administrative Specialist Sixth Judicial District Court, Dept. II		
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1	CERTIFICATION OF COPY		
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3	STATE OF NEVADA,		
4	COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT,		
5			
6	I, TAMI RAE SPERO, the duly elected, qualifying and acting Clerk of Humboldt County, in the State of Nevada,		
7	and Ex-Officio Clerk of the District Court, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, full and correct copy		
8	of the original: Appeal to The Nevada Supreme Court; Case Appeal Statement; District Court Docket Entries;		
9	Order Denying Request for a Hearing;		
10			
11	Mark L. Sharp,		
12	Petitioner,		
13	vs. () CASE NO. CV0020479		
14	The State of Nevada,		
15	Respondent.		
16			
17	now on file and of record in this office.		
18	IN WITNESS THEREOF , I have hereunto set my hand and affixed		
19 20	the seal of the Court at my office, Winnemucca, Nevada, this 10th		
21	day of April, 2020, A.D.		
22	TAMIRAE SPERO, CLERK		
23	By: Deputy aut		
24	DEPUTIGLERK		
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