Brendan Nasby I.D. No, 63618 **Electronically Filed** Levelock Corr. Ctr. 5/2/2019 12:20 PM 1200 Prison Rd. Steven D. Grierson Lovelack, NV 89419 **CLERK OF THE COURT** Petitroner In Prose THE ETGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT **Electronically Filed** May 09 2019 01:06 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court -19-788126-1 Petitioner 12 NOTICE OF APPEA 14 15 Notice is hereby given that, Brendan James Nasby, Petitioner in 17 Se, hereby appeals to the Supreme Court of the State of Nevada 18 the final judgment/order Denying Petition for Post-Conviction Reply To State's Response To Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, NRCP 12(2) 20 Motion To Strike, And If Necessary NRCP 59(8) Motion To Alter Or Amend 21 Judgment entered in this action on the 12th day of April well as the Denial of Petitioner's Motion For Appointment of Counse entered on the 10th day of April, 2018 Dated this 26th day of April, 2019. Netitioner In Prose Docket 78744 Document 2019-20320 Case Number: A-19-788126-W

1	Certificate Of Service
2	I, Brendan James Nasby, neteby certify that on this 26th day
3	of April, 2019, I mailed to the clerk, and caused to be served by
4 1	· ·
. 1	the Clerk's Flectronic Filing / Service, the foregoing " Notice Of
5	Appeal" to:
6	1) Attorney General 2) STEVEN B. WOLFSON 100 N. Cark County District Attorney
7	Carson City, NV 99710-4717 Nevada Bar#001565
9	CHARLES W. THOMAN Chief Deputy District Attorney
g	Nevada Bastro 12649 200 Lewis Avenue
10	Las Vegas, Nevada 89155-2212
	Attorney For Respondent.
12	3) Brendan Nasby #63618 Case of LCC Law Librasian
13	Lovelock Correctional Center 1200 Prison Road
14	Lovelock, Nevada 89419
15	lcclawlibrary@doc.nv.gov
16	Rui
17	Jerendan Nasky # 63618 (Petitioner In Prose)
18	
lg	ASSismation Pursuant To NRS 2398,030.
20	The undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding "Notice of Appeal"
71	
A	does not contain the social security number of any person.
	Doted this 26th day of April, 2019.
a3	40
24	By: Brendan Herry #63618
25	(Petitioner Introse)
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Electronically Filed 4/15/2019 3:13 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

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DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

BRENDAN NASBY,

vs.

Petitioner,

RENEE BAKER WARDEN; ET AL,

Respondent,

Case No: A-18-788126-W

Dept No: XIX

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on April 12, 2019, the court entered a decision or order in this matter, a true and correct copy of which is attached to this notice.

You may appeal to the Supreme Court from the decision or order of this court. If you wish to appeal, you must file a notice of appeal with the clerk of this court within thirty-three (33) days after the date this notice is mailed to you. This notice was mailed on April 15, 2019.

STEVEN D. GRIERSON, CLERK OF THE COURT

/s/ Debra Donaldson

Debra Donaldson, Deputy Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF E-SERVICE / MAILING

I hereby certify that on this 15 day of April 2019, I served a copy of this Notice of Entry on the following:

☑ By e-mail:

Clark County District Attorney's Office Attorney General's Office - Appellate Division-

☑ The United States mail addressed as follows: Brendan Nasby # 63618 1200 Prison Rd.

Lovelock, NV 89419

/s/ Debra Donaldson

Debra Donaldson, Deputy Clerk

Electronically Filed 4/12/2019 9:37 AM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT 1 **FCL** STEVEN B. WOLFSON Clark County District Attorney 2 Nevada Bar #001565 3 CHARLES W. THOMAN Chief Deputy District Attorney 4 Nevada Bar #12649 200 Lewis Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89155-2212 (702) 671-2500 5 6 Attorney for Plaintiff DISTRICT COURT 7 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 8 9 THE STATE OF NEVADA, Plaintiff. 10 A-19-788126-W CASE NO: -VS-11 XIX DEPT NO: BRENDAN JAMES NASBY, 12 #1517690 13 Defendant. 14 FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER 15 16 DATE OF HEARING: March 25, 2019 TIME OF HEARING: 08:30 AM 17 THIS CAUSE having come on for hearing before the Honorable WILLIAM D. 18 KEPHART, District Judge, on the 25th day of March, 2019, the Petitioner not being present, 19 the Respondent being represented by STEVEN B. WOLFSON, Clark County District 20 Attorney, by and through BERNARD ZADROWSKI, Chief Deputy District Attorney, and the 21 Court having considered the matter, including briefs, transcripts, arguments of counsel, and 22 documents on file herein, now therefore, the Court makes the following findings of fact and 23 conclusions of law: 24 25 /// 26 /// 27 /// /// 28

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

On November 9, 1998, the State filed an Information charging BRENDAN JAMES NASBY ("Defendant") with: COUNT 1 – Conspiracy to Commit Murder (Felony - NRS 199.480, 200.010, 200.030) and COUNT 2 – Murder with use of a Deadly Weapon (Open Murder) (Felony - NRS 200.010, 200.030, 193.165).

Defendant's jury trial began on October 11, 1999. On October 19, 1999, the jury returned found Defendant guilty on both counts; as to COUNT 2, the jury returned a guilty verdict for First Degree Murder with use of a Deadly Weapon. On November 29, 1999, Defendant was sentenced to the Nevada Department of Corrections ("NDC") as follows: as to COUNT 1 – 48 to 120 months and as to COUNT 2 – Life with the possibility of parole, plus an equal and consecutive term for the use of a deadly weapon, to run consecutive to COUNT 1. Defendant's Judgment of Conviction was filed on December 2, 1999.

Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal on December 14, 1999. The Nevada Supreme Court affirmed Defendant's conviction on February 7, 2001. Nasby v. State, No. 35319 (Order of Affirmance, Feb. 7, 2001). Remittitur issued on March 6, 2001.

On January 30, 2002, Defendant filed a Post-Conviction Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus. The State filed a Response on April 5, 2002. On March 27, 2006, the Court denied Defendant's Petition. Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal on April 12, 2006. The Court filed its Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order on April 26, 2006, and its Notice of Entry on April 27, 2006. On June 18, 2007, the Nevada Supreme Court affirmed the Court's denial of Defendant's first Petition. Nasby v. State, No. 47130 (Order of Affirmance, June 28, 2007). Remittitur issued on July 13, 2007.

Defendant filed his second Post-Conviction Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus on February 18, 2011. The State responded on April 8, 2011. The Court denied Defendant's second Petition as procedurally barred on May 11, 2011. The Court filed its Findings of Facts Conclusions of Law on June 17, 2011. Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal on June 13, 2011, with the Nevada Supreme Court affirming the decision of the district court on February 8,

2012, and issuing Remittitur on March 5, 2012. Nasby v. State, No. 58579 (Order of Affirmance, Feb. 8, 2012).

On December 9, 2014, Defendant filed his third Post-Conviction Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus. The State responded on February 4, 2015. This Court denied Defendant's Petition as procedurally barred on February 25, 2015. Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal on March 13, 2015. This Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law was filed on March 30, 2015. On September 11, 2015, the Nevada Supreme Court affirmed the Court's denial of Defendant's third petition as untimely, successive, and an abuse of the writ without a showing of good cause and prejudice.

On April 3, 2015, Defendant filed a Motion to Disqualify Judge, and Notice and Motion to Attach Supplemental Exhibits on April 21, 2015. The State filed on Opposition on April 28, 2015. On April 28, 2015, the Court filed a written order denying Defendant's motions. Defendant appealed this decision and the Nevada Supreme Court dismissed Defendant's appeal on July 8, 2015.

On January 5, 2016, Defendant filed his fourth Post-Conviction Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, a Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support, a Supplemental Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support, and a Motion for Appointment of Counsel. The State filed a Response on February 23, 2016. Defendant filed a reply on March 10, 2016. On April 4, 2016, Defendant's Petition was denied. The Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law were filed on May 9, 2016.

On May 18, 2016, Defendant filed a Motion to Alter or Amend Judgment N. R. Civ. P. 59(e). The State responded on June 2, 2016. The Court denied Defendant's Motion on June 8, 2016. Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal on June 14, 2016; the appeal is still pending with the Nevada Court of Appeals.

On January 26, 2016, Defendant filed a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (NRS 34.360 - Constitutional Questions/Questions of Law) in the Eleventh Judicial District Court, seeking a declaratory judgment on seven allegations of trial error. The Eleventh Judicial District Court transferred Defendant's Petition back to this Court, as this Court has proper

jurisdiction over Defendant. On April 4, 2017, Defendant filed a Motion for Reconsideration. The State responded on April 19, 2017. The State Responded to Defendant's Petition on April 25, 2017. The next day, Defendant's Motion for Reconsideration was denied.

On May 10, 2017, Defendant filed a Reply to the States response to Defendant's Petition, and on May 15, 2017, the court denied Defendant's Petition. The Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order was filed on June 20, 2017. On June 27, 2017, Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal.

On May 22, 2018, the Nevada Court of Appeals affirmed the denial of Defendant's fourth Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus.

On January 11, 2019, Defendant filed the instant Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus. This Court ordered the State to respond on January 30, 2019. The State responded on March 13, 2019.

ANALYSIS

I. DEFENDANT'S FIFTH PETITION IS PROCEDURALLY BARRED

A. The Procedural Bars are Mandatory

The Nevada Supreme Court has held that "[a]pplication of the statutory procedural default rules to post-conviction habeas petitions is *mandatory*," noting:

Habeas corpus petitions that are filed many years after conviction are an unreasonable burden on the criminal justice system. The necessity for a workable system dictates that there must exist a time when a criminal conviction is final.

State v. Dist. Court (Riker), 121 Nev. 225, 112 P.3d 1070 (2005) (emphasis added). Additionally, the Court noted that procedural bars "cannot be ignored [by the district court] when properly raised by the State." Id. at 233, 112 P.3d at 1075. The Nevada Supreme Court has granted no discretion to the district courts regarding whether to apply the statutory procedural bars; the rules must be applied. For the reasons discussed below, this Court finds Defendant's Petition must be denied.

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B. Defendant's Petition is Barred by Laches

NRS 34.800 creates a rebuttable presumption of prejudice to the State if "[a] period exceeding five years between the filing of a judgment of conviction, an order imposing a sentence of imprisonment or a decision on direct appeal of a judgment of conviction and the filing of a petition challenging the validity of a judgment of conviction...." The statute also requires that the State plead laches in its motion to dismiss the petition. NRS 34.800. The State pleaded laches in the instant case.

The Judgment of Conviction was filed on December 2, 1999. Defendant filed the instant Petition on January 11, 2019. Since more than 19 years have elapsed since the date the Judgment of Conviction was filed and the filing of the instant petition, NRS 34.800 directly applies in this case. The delay is more than triple the five years required for a presumption of prejudice to arise. After such a passage of time, this Court finds the State is prejudiced in its ability to retry this case should relief be granted.

C. Defendant's Motion is Time Barred

The mandatory provision of NRS 34.726(1) states:

Unless there is good cause shown for delay, a petition that challenges the validity of a judgment or sentence must be filed within 1 year after entry of the judgment of conviction or, if an appeal has been taken from the judgment, within 1 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:

(emphasis added). "[T]he statutory rules regarding procedural default are mandatory and cannot be ignored when properly raised by the State." <u>State v. Dist. Court (Riker)</u>, 121 Nev. 225, 233, 112 P.3d 1070, 1075 (2005).

Accordingly, the one-year time bar prescribed 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. Dickerson v. State, 114 Nev. 1084, 1087, 967 P.2d 1132, 1133-34 (1998); see Pellegrini v. State, 117 Nev. 860, 873, 34 P.3d 519, 528 (2001) (holding that NRS 34.726 should be construed by its plain meaning).

 In Gonzales v. State, 118 Nev. 590, 593, 590 P.3d 901, 902 (2002), the Nevada Supreme Court affirmed the rejection of a habeas petition that was filed two days late, pursuant to the "clear and unambiguous" mandatory provisions of NRS 34.726(1). Gonzales reiterated the importance of filing the petition with the District Court within the one-year mandate, absent a showing of "good cause" for the delay in filing. Gonzales, 590 P.3d at 902. The one-year time bar is therefore strictly construed. In contrast with the short amount of time to file a notice of appeal, a prisoner has an ample full year to file a post-conviction habeas petition, so there is no injustice in a strict application of NRS 34.726(1), despite any alleged difficulties with the postal system. Gonzales, 118 Nev. at 595, 53 P.3d at 903.

Here, Defendant claims that he is not challenging his Judgement of Conviction but appears to argue that his judgment of conviction is void because the jury was instructed on premeditation and deliberation pursuant to the <u>Kazalyn v. State</u>, 108 Nev. 67, 825 P.2d 578 (1992) interpretation of NRS 200.030(1)(a) instead of <u>Byford v. State</u>, 116 Nev. 215, 994 P.2d 700 (2000). Petition at 5-6. This is clearly a challenge to the validity of Defendant's sentence, and therefore this Petition would only be timely if brought within a year of the filing of Defendant's judgement of Conviction or remittitur if Defendant appealed.

Defendant's Judgment of Conviction was filed on December 2, 1999. He filed a Notice of Appeal on December 14, 1999, and the Nevada Supreme Court issued its remittitur on March 6, 2001. Accordingly, Defendant had until approximately March 6, 2002, to file a post-conviction petition. The instant motion was not filed until January 19, 2019, more than 17 years later. Therefore, absent a showing of good cause, Defendant's motion must be denied as time-barred pursuant to NRS 34.726(1). NRS 34.726 can only be overcome upon a showing of good cause and prejudice or actual innocence, which Defendant fails to demonstrate. Accordingly, this Court finds Defendant's Petition must be denied.

D. Defendant's Petition is Successive and an Abuse of the Writ

Defendant's instant petition must be dismissed pursuant to NRS 34.810 as it is successive and an abuse of the writ. NRS 34.810 provides in pertinent part that:

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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 Defendant to assert those grounds in a prior petition constituted an abuse of the writ.

3. Pursuant to subsections 1 and 2, the petitioner has the burden of pleading and proving specific facts that demonstrate:

(a) Good cause for the petitioner's failure to present the claim or for presenting the claim again; and

claim or for presenting the claim again; and

Actual prejudice to the petitioner.

Defendant filed five previous Petitions for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-Conviction) on January 30, 2002, February 18, 2011, December 9, 2014, January 5, 2016, and January 26, 2016. Each petition was duly considered and denied by the Court. Consequently, the instant petition filed on January 19, 2019, is a successive petition. Moreover, Defendant raises the exact same claim he raised on direct appeal and in his December 26, 2013, petition. As such, the instant petition is also an abuse of the writ. See also Pellegrini v. State, 117 Nev. 860, 888, 34 P.3d 519, 538 (2001); Hall v. State, 91 Nev. 314, 315, 535 P.2d 797, 798 (1975).

To avoid the procedural default under NRS 34.810, Defendant has the burden of pleading and proving specific facts that demonstrate both good cause for his failure to present his claim in a timely manner and actual prejudice, which Defendant fails to demonstrate. NRS 34.810(3); Hogan v. Warden, 109 Nev. 952, 959-60, 860 P.2d 710, 715-16 (1993); Phelps v. Director, 104 Nev. 656, 659, 764 P.2d 1303, 1305 (1988). Thus, this Court finds the instant Petition must be denied.

DEFENDANT CANNOT ESTABLISH GOOD CAUSE TO OVERCOME II. THE PROCEDURAL BARS

To avoid procedural default under NRS 34.726 or NRS 34.800, a defendant has the burden of pleading and proving specific facts that demonstrate good cause for his failure to present his claim in earlier proceedings or comply with the statutory requirements. See Hogan, 109 Ney. at 959-60, 860 P.2d at 715-16; Phelps, 104 Ney. at 659, 764 P.2d at 1305.

"To establish good cause, appellants must show that an impediment external to the defense prevented their compliance with the applicable procedural rule." Clem v. State, 119

Nev. 615, 621, 81 P.3d 521, 525 (2003) (emphasis added); see Hathaway v. State, 119 Nev. 248, 251, 71 P.3d 503, 506 (2003); Pellegrini, 117 Nev. at 887, 34 P.3d at 537. Such an external impediment could be "that the factual or legal basis for a claim was not reasonably available to counsel, or that 'some interference by officials' made compliance impracticable." Hathaway, 119 Nev. at 251, 71 P.3d at 506 (quoting Murray v. Carrier, 477 U.S. 478, 488, 106 S. Ct. 2639, 2645 (1986)); see also Gonzalez, 118 Nev. at 595, 53 P.3d at 904 (citing Harris v. Warden, 114 Nev. 956, 959-60 n.4, 964 P.2d 785 n.4 (1998)). Any delay in filing of the petition must not be the fault of the petitioner. NRS 34.726(1)(a).

The Nevada Supreme Court has clarified that a defendant cannot attempt to manufacture good cause. Clem, 119 Nev. at 621, 81 P.3d at 526. To find good cause there must be a "substantial reason; one that affords a legal excuse." Hathaway, 119 Nev. at 251, 71 P.3d at 506. Excuses such as the lack of assistance of counsel when preparing a petition, as well as the failure of trial counsel to forward a copy of the file to a petitioner have been found not to constitute good cause. See Phelps, 104 Nev. at 660, 764 P.2d at 1306, superseded by statute on other grounds as recognized in Nika v. State, 120 Nev. 600, 607, 97 P.3d 1140, 1145 (2004); Hood v. State, 111 Nev. 335, 890 P.2d 797 (1995). Moreover, a return to state court to exhaust remedies for federal habeas is not good cause to overcome state procedural bars. Colley v. State, 105 Nev. 235, 236, 773 P.2d 1229, 1230 (1989).

Finally, claims asserted in a petition for post-conviction relief must be supported with specific factual allegations, which if true, would entitle the petitioner to relief. Hargrove v. State, 100 Nev. 498, 502, 686 P.2d 222, 225 (1984). "Bare" and "naked" allegations are not sufficient, nor are those belied and repelled by the record. Id.

Defendant fails to assert any good cause for his procedural default. Instead, he argues, as discussed, supra, that the procedural bars do not apply to him. For the reasons discussed, they do. Defendant also relies on Montgomery v. Louisiana, 136 S.Ct. 718, 193 L.Ed.2d 599 (2016) and Welch v. U.S., 136 S.Ct. 1257, 194 L.Ed.2d 387 (2016) to argue that he could not bring a timely claim because he had cases pending on appeal when these cases were decided. Petition at 7. This claim lacks merit. Both Montgomery and Welch analyze when Byford

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should be applied retroactively to cases that were final when Byford was decided. At the time Byford was decided, Defendant's case was pending on appeal and therefore not a final decision. The case most favorable to Defendant is Nika v. State, 124 Nev. 1272, 198 P.3d 839 (2008) which allowed for Byford to apply to cases pending on appeal at the time Byford pronounced a change in law, and Defendant failed to file a petition within one year after Nika was decided. Moreover, Defendant could and should have previously raised these issues in an earlier petition. As such, Defendant fails to establish an impediment external to the defense and therefore does not constitute good cause to overcome the procedural bars. Phelps v. Director, Nevada Department of Prisons, 104 Nev. 656, 764 P.2d 1303 (1988). Accordingly, Defendant cannot demonstrate good cause and this Court finds Defendant's Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus must be denied.

ORDER

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Petition for Post-Conviction Relief shall be, and it is, hereby denied.

DATED this _____ day of April, 2019.

Clark County District Attorney Nevada Bar #001565

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that service of the above and foregoing was made this 5th day of April, 2019, by depositing a copy in the U.S. Mail, postage pre-paid, addressed to:

BRENDAN JAMES NASBY #63618 LOVELOCK CORRECTIONAL CENTER 1200 Prison Road Lovelock, NV 89419

BY /s/D. Daniels
Secretary for the District Attorney's Office

 $98F11168/QH\hbox{-}Appeals/dd/MVU$

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Case Information

A-19-788126-W | Brendan Nasby, Plaintiff(s) vs. Renee Baker Warden, Defendant(s)

Case Number A-19-788126-W

Court
Department 19

Judicial Officer Kephart, William D.

File Date 01/11/2019

Case Type Writ of Habeas Corpus

Case Status Open

Party

Plaintiff Nasby, Brendan

Active Attorneys

Pro Se

Defendant Renee Baker Warden

Active Attorneys

Lead Attorney Wolfson, Steven B

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ttorney homan, Charles W.
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efendant tate of Nevada
ctive Attorneys ttorney adrowski, Bernard B.
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ead Attorney Volfson, Steven B
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ttorney noman, Charles W.
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Events and Hearings

• 01/11/2019 Inmate Filed - Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus

Comment Post Conviction

- 01/11/2019 Application to Proceed in Forma Pauperis
- 01/25/2019 Order to Proceed In Forma Pauperis

• 01/30/2019 Order for Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus

Comment

Order for Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus

• 02/05/2019 Motion for Appointment of Attorney

Comment

Motion for Appointment of Counsel

• 02/26/2019 Notice of Motion

Comment

Notice of Motion

03/12/2019 Notice

Comment

Notice to the Court

• 03/13/2019 Response

Comment

State's Response to Defendant's Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post Conviction)

• 03/25/2019 Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus

Judicial Officer

Kephart, William D.

Hearing Time

8:30 AM

Result

Denied

04/01/2019 Reply

Comment

Reply to State's Response to Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus , NRCP 12(f) Motion to Strike ,and if Necessary NRCP 59(e) Motion to Alter or Amend Judgment

• 04/01/2019 Notice

Comment

Notice of Pleading

• 04/03/2019 Notice of Change of Hearing

Comment
Notice of Change of Hearing

• 04/08/2019 Response

Comment State's Response to Defendant's Motion to Appoint Counsel

• 04/10/2019 Motion for Appointment of Attorney

Judicial Officer Kephart, William D.

Hearing Time 8:30 AM

Result Denied

Comment Notice of Motion

Parties Present

Defendant

Attorney: Zadrowski, Bernard B.

- 04/12/2019 Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order
- 04/15/2019 Notice of Entry

Comment Notice of Entry of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order

Financial

No financial information exists for this case.

Brendan Nasby #63618 Lovelock Corr. Cfr. 1200 Porson Rd. Lovelock, NV 89419

Lovelock Correctional Center



INMATE LEGAL MAIL CONFIDENTIAL

Clerk Of The Court
200 Lewis Ave.
3rd Floor
Las Vegas, NV 89155-1160

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IN THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CLARK

BRENDAN JAMES NASBY,

Plaintiff(s),

VS.

RENEE BAKER (WARDEN),

Defendant(s),

Case No: A-19-788126-W

Dept No: XIX

CASE APPEAL STATEMENT

- 1. Appellant(s): Brendan James Nasby
- 2. Judge: William D. Kephart
- 3. Appellant(s): Brendan James Nasby

Counsel:

Brendan James Nasby #63618 1200 Prison Rd. Lovelock, NV 89419

4. Respondent (s): Renee Baker (Warden)

Counsel:

Steven B. Wolfson, District Attorney 200 Lewis Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89155-2212

A-19-788126-W -1-

Case Number: A-19-788126-W

1 2	5. Appellant(s)'s Attorney Licensed in Nevada: N/A Permission Granted: N/A				
3	Respondent(s)'s Attorney Licensed in Nevada: Yes Permission Granted: N/A				
5	6. Has Appellant Ever Been Represented by Appointed Counsel In District Court: No				
6	7. Appellant Represented by Appointed Counsel On Appeal: N/A				
7 8	8. Appellant Granted Leave to Proceed in Forma Pauperis**: Yes, January 25, 2019 **Expires 1 year from date filed Appellant Filed Application to Proceed in Forma Pauperis: N/A Date Application(s) filed: N/A				
9	9. Date Commenced in District Court: January 11, 2019				
10	10. Brief Description of the Nature of the Action: Unknown				
12	Type of Judgment or Order Being Appealed: Civil Writ of Habeas Corpus				
13	11. Previous Appeal: No				
14	Supreme Court Docket Number(s): N/A				
15	12. Child Custody or Visitation: N/A				
16	13. Possibility of Settlement: Unknown				
17	Dated This 7 day of May 2019.				
18	Steven D. Grierson, Clerk of the Court				
19					
20	/s/ Heather Ungermann				
21	Heather Ungermann, Deputy Clerk 200 Lewis Ave				
22	PO Box 551601 Las Vegas, Nevada 89155-1601				
23	(702) 671-0512				
25					
26					
27	cc: Brendan James Nasby				
- 1					

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

CASE SUMMARY CASE No. A-19-788126-W

Brendan Nasby, Plaintiff(s) Renee Baker Warden, Defendant(s)

Judicial Officer: Filed on: **01/11/2019**

Location: Department 19 Kephart, William D.

Cross-Reference Case A788126

Number:

CASE INFORMATION

Related Cases Case Type: Writ of Habeas Corpus 98C154293-2 (Writ Related Case)

Case 01/11/2019 Open Status:

DATE **CASE ASSIGNMENT**

Current Case Assignment

Case Number A-19-788126-W Court Department 19 Date Assigned 01/11/2019 Judicial Officer Kephart, William D.

PARTY INFORMATION

Lead Attorneys **Plaintiff** Nasby, Brendan

Pro Se

Defendant Renee Baker Warden Wolfson, Steven B

Retained 702-455-5320(W)

State of Nevada Wolfson, Steven B Retained

702-455-5320(W)

DATE **EVENTS & ORDERS OF THE COURT INDEX**

EVENTS

01/11/2019 Inmate Filed - Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus

Party: Plaintiff Nasby, Brendan

Post Conviction

01/11/2019 Application to Proceed in Forma Pauperis

Filed By: Plaintiff Nasby, Brendan

01/25/2019 췹 Order to Proceed In Forma Pauperis

Granted for: Plaintiff Nasby, Brendan

01/30/2019 Order for Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus

Order for Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus

02/05/2019 Motion for Appointment of Attorney

> Filed By: Plaintiff Nasby, Brendan Motion for Appointment of Counsel

02/26/2019 Notice of Motion

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-19-788126-W

	CASE NO. A-17-700120-W
	Filed By: Plaintiff Nasby, Brendan Notice of Motion
03/12/2019	Notice Filed By: Plaintiff Nasby, Brendan Notice to the Court
03/13/2019	Response Filed by: Plaintiff Nasby, Brendan State's Response to Defendant's Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post Conviction)
04/01/2019	Reply Filed by: Plaintiff Nasby, Brendan Reply to State's Response to Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, NRCP 12(f) Motion to Strike, and if Necessary NRCP 59(e) Motion to Alter or Amend Judgment
04/01/2019	Notice Filed By: Plaintiff Nasby, Brendan Notice of Pleading
04/03/2019	Notice of Change of Hearing Notice of Change of Hearing
04/08/2019	Response Filed by: Plaintiff Nasby, Brendan State's Response to Defendant's Motion to Appoint Counsel
04/12/2019	Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order Filed By: Defendant State of Nevada
04/15/2019	Notice of Entry Notice of Entry of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order
05/02/2019	Notice of Appeal Notice of Appeal
05/07/2019	Case Appeal Statement Case Appeal Statement
03/25/2019	HEARINGS Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (8:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Kephart, William D.) Denied; Journal Entry Details: Court FINDS, this petition is procedurally barred, successive, and an abuse of the Writ process. COURT ORDERED, Petition DENIED. NDC CLERK'S NOTE:A copy of this minute order was mailed to: Brendan Nasby #1517690 1200 Prison Road Lovelock, NV 89419;
04/10/2019	Motion for Appointment of Attorney (8:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Kephart, William D.) Events: 02/26/2019 Notice of Motion Notice of Motion Denied; Journal Entry Details:
	Court noted Defendant not present and in custody with the Nevada Department of Corrections. Further, Court noted Defendant is seeking the appointment of counsel, this motion follows the denial of Defendant's sixth Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus. COURT ORDERED, Motion

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-19-788126-W

DENIED as MOOT as the Petition was previously denied on 3/25/2019 and Defendant has provided no legal reason as to why counsel should be appointed and Defendant is not entitled to counsel at this point. NDC CLERK'S NOTE: The above minute order has been distributed to: BRENDAN NASBY #63618 LOVELOCK CORRECTIONAL CENTER 1200 PRISON ROAD LOVELOCK, NV 89419;

DISTRICT COURT CIVIL COVER SHEET

County, Nevada

A-19-788126-W Dept. XIX

Case No.							
(Assigned by Clerk's Office)							
I. Party Information (provide both	home and mailing addresses if different)						
Plaintiff(s) (name/address/phone): BYP/DAN JOMES N BOO TY SEW R	asby #63618 089419	Defendant(s) (name/address/phone):					
. •	' \						
Attorney (name/address/phone):		Attorney (name/address/phone):					
II. Nature of Controversy (please:	select the one most applicable filing type b	elaw)					
Civil Case Filing Types							
Real Property		Torts					
Landlord/Tenant	Negligence	Other Torts					
Unlawful Detainer	Auto	Product Liability					
Other Landlord/Tenant	Premises Liability	Intentional Misconduct					
Title to Property	Other Negligence	Employment Ton					
Judicial Foreclosure	Malpractice	Insurance Tort					
Other Title to Property	Medical/Dental	Other Tori					
Other Real Property	Legal						
Condemnation/Eminent Domain	Accounting						
Other Real Property	Other Malpractice						
Probate	Construction Defect & Contrac	Judicial Review/Appeal					
Probate (select case type and estate value)	Construction Defect	Judicial Review					
Summary Administration	Chapter 40	Foreclosure Mediation Case					
General Administration	Other Construction Defect	Petition to Seal Records					
Special Administration	Contract Case	Mental Competency					
Set Aside	Uniform Commercial Code	Nevada State Agency Appeal					
Trust/Conservatoship	Building and Construction	Department of Motor Vehicle					
Other Probate	Insurance Carrier	Worker's Compensation					
Estate Value	Commercial Instrument	Other Nevada State Agency					
Over \$200,000	Collection of Accounts	Appeal Other					
Between \$100,000 and \$200,000	Employment Contract	Appeal from Lower Court					
Under \$100,000 or Unknown	Other Contract	Other Judicial Review/Appeal					
Under \$2,500							
Civil Writ		Other Civil Filing					
Civil Writ		Other Civil Filing					
Writ of Habeas Corpus	Writ of Prohibition	Compromise of Minor's Claim					
Writ of Mandamus Other Civil Writ		Foreign Judgment					
Writ of Quo Warrant		Other Civil Matters					
Business Cou	ert filings should be filed using the Bu	siness Court civil coversheet.					
1-11-2019		PREPARED BY CLERK					
Date	-	Signature of initiating party or representative					

See other side for family-related case filings.

A-19-788126-W CCS Civil Cover Sheet 4810968



Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT 1 **FCL** STEVEN B. WOLFSON 2 Clark County District Attorney Nevada Bar #001565 3 CHARLES W. THOMAN Chief Deputy District Attorney 4 Nevada Bar #12649 200 Lewis Avenue 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89155-2212 (702) 671-2500 6 Attorney for Plaintiff 7 DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 8 9 THE STATE OF NEVADA. Plaintiff. 10 CASE NO: A-19-788126-W 11 -vs-**DEPT NO:** XIX 12 BRENDAN JAMES NASBY, #1517690 13 Defendant. 14 FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF 15 LAW AND ORDER 16 DATE OF HEARING: March 25, 2019 TIME OF HEARING: 08:30 ÁM 17 THIS CAUSE having come on for hearing before the Honorable WILLIAM D. 18 KEPHART, District Judge, on the 25th day of March, 2019, the Petitioner not being present, 19 the Respondent being represented by STEVEN B. WOLFSON, Clark County District 20 Attorney, by and through BERNARD ZADROWSKI, Chief Deputy District Attorney, and the 21 Court having considered the matter, including briefs, transcripts, arguments of counsel, and 22 documents on file herein, now therefore, the Court makes the following findings of fact and 23 conclusions of law: 24 25 /// 26 /// 27 /// /// 28

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FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

On November 9, 1998, the State filed an Information charging BRENDAN JAMES NASBY ("Defendant") with: COUNT 1 – Conspiracy to Commit Murder (Felony - NRS 199.480, 200.010, 200.030) and COUNT 2 – Murder with use of a Deadly Weapon (Open Murder) (Felony - NRS 200.010, 200.030, 193.165).

Defendant's jury trial began on October 11, 1999. On October 19, 1999, the jury returned found Defendant guilty on both counts; as to COUNT 2, the jury returned a guilty verdict for First Degree Murder with use of a Deadly Weapon. On November 29, 1999, Defendant was sentenced to the Nevada Department of Corrections ("NDC") as follows: as to COUNT 1 – 48 to 120 months and as to COUNT 2 – Life with the possibility of parole, plus an equal and consecutive term for the use of a deadly weapon, to run consecutive to COUNT 1. Defendant's Judgment of Conviction was filed on December 2, 1999.

Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal on December 14, 1999. The Nevada Supreme Court affirmed Defendant's conviction on February 7, 2001. Nasby v. State, No. 35319 (Order of Affirmance, Feb. 7, 2001). Remittitur issued on March 6, 2001.

On January 30, 2002, Defendant filed a Post-Conviction Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus. The State filed a Response on April 5, 2002. On March 27, 2006, the Court denied Defendant's Petition. Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal on April 12, 2006. The Court filed its Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order on April 26, 2006, and its Notice of Entry on April 27, 2006. On June 18, 2007, the Nevada Supreme Court affirmed the Court's denial of Defendant's first Petition. Nasby v. State, No. 47130 (Order of Affirmance, June 28, 2007). Remittitur issued on July 13, 2007.

Defendant filed his second Post-Conviction Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus on February 18, 2011. The State responded on April 8, 2011. The Court denied Defendant's second Petition as procedurally barred on May 11, 2011. The Court filed its Findings of Facts Conclusions of Law on June 17, 2011. Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal on June 13, 2011, with the Nevada Supreme Court affirming the decision of the district court on February 8,

2012, and issuing Remittitur on March 5, 2012. <u>Nasby v. State</u>, No. 58579 (Order of Affirmance, Feb. 8, 2012).

On December 9, 2014, Defendant filed his third Post-Conviction Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus. The State responded on February 4, 2015. This Court denied Defendant's Petition as procedurally barred on February 25, 2015. Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal on March 13, 2015. This Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law was filed on March 30, 2015. On September 11, 2015, the Nevada Supreme Court affirmed the Court's denial of Defendant's third petition as untimely, successive, and an abuse of the writ without a showing of good cause and prejudice.

On April 3, 2015, Defendant filed a Motion to Disqualify Judge, and Notice and Motion to Attach Supplemental Exhibits on April 21, 2015. The State filed on Opposition on April 28, 2015. On April 28, 2015, the Court filed a written order denying Defendant's motions. Defendant appealed this decision and the Nevada Supreme Court dismissed Defendant's appeal on July 8, 2015.

On January 5, 2016, Defendant filed his fourth Post-Conviction Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, a Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support, and a Motion for Appointment of Counsel. The State filed a Response on February 23, 2016. Defendant filed a reply on March 10, 2016. On April 4, 2016, Defendant's Petition was denied. The Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law were filed on May 9, 2016.

On May 18, 2016, Defendant filed a Motion to Alter or Amend Judgment N. R. Civ. P. 59(e). The State responded on June 2, 2016. The Court denied Defendant's Motion on June 8, 2016. Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal on June 14, 2016; the appeal is still pending with the Nevada Court of Appeals.

On January 26, 2016, Defendant filed a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (NRS 34.360 - Constitutional Questions/Questions of Law) in the Eleventh Judicial District Court, seeking a declaratory judgment on seven allegations of trial error. The Eleventh Judicial District Court transferred Defendant's Petition back to this Court, as this Court has proper

jurisdiction over Defendant. On April 4, 2017, Defendant filed a Motion for Reconsideration. The State responded on April 19, 2017. The State Responded to Defendant's Petition on April 25, 2017. The next day, Defendant's Motion for Reconsideration was denied.

On May 10, 2017, Defendant filed a Reply to the States response to Defendant's Petition, and on May 15, 2017, the court denied Defendant's Petition. The Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order was filed on June 20, 2017. On June 27, 2017, Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal.

On May 22, 2018, the Nevada Court of Appeals affirmed the denial of Defendant's fourth Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus.

On January 11, 2019, Defendant filed the instant Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus. This Court ordered the State to respond on January 30, 2019. The State responded on March 13, 2019.

ANALYSIS

I. DEFENDANT'S FIFTH PETITION IS PROCEDURALLY BARRED

A. The Procedural Bars are Mandatory

The Nevada Supreme Court has held that "[a]pplication of the statutory procedural default rules to post-conviction habeas petitions is *mandatory*," noting:

Habeas corpus petitions that are filed many years after conviction are an unreasonable burden on the criminal justice system. The necessity for a workable system dictates that there must exist a time when a criminal conviction is final.

State v. Dist. Court (Riker), 121 Nev. 225, 112 P.3d 1070 (2005) (emphasis added). Additionally, the Court noted that procedural bars "cannot be ignored [by the district court] when properly raised by the State." <u>Id.</u> at 233, 112 P.3d at 1075. The Nevada Supreme Court has granted no discretion to the district courts regarding whether to apply the statutory procedural bars; the rules must be applied. For the reasons discussed below, this Court finds Defendant's Petition must be denied.

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B. Defendant's Petition is Barred by Laches

NRS 34.800 creates a rebuttable presumption of prejudice to the State if "[a] period exceeding five years between the filing of a judgment of conviction, an order imposing a sentence of imprisonment or a decision on direct appeal of a judgment of conviction and the filing of a petition challenging the validity of a judgment of conviction...." The statute also requires that the State plead laches in its motion to dismiss the petition. NRS 34.800. The State pleaded laches in the instant case.

The Judgment of Conviction was filed on December 2, 1999. Defendant filed the instant Petition on January 11, 2019. Since more than 19 years have elapsed since the date the Judgment of Conviction was filed and the filing of the instant petition, NRS 34.800 directly applies in this case. The delay is more than triple the five years required for a presumption of prejudice to arise. After such a passage of time, this Court finds the State is prejudiced in its ability to retry this case should relief be granted.

C. Defendant's Motion is Time Barred

The mandatory provision of NRS 34.726(1) states:

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 after 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:

(emphasis added). "[T]he statutory rules regarding procedural default are mandatory and cannot be ignored when properly raised by the State." <u>State v. Dist. Court (Riker)</u>, 121 Nev. 225, 233, 112 P.3d 1070, 1075 (2005).

Accordingly, the one-year time bar prescribed 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. Dickerson v. State, 114 Nev. 1084, 1087, 967 P.2d 1132, 1133-34 (1998); see Pellegrini v. State, 117 Nev. 860, 873, 34 P.3d 519, 528 (2001) (holding that NRS 34.726 should be construed by its plain meaning).

In Gonzales v. State, 118 Nev. 590, 593, 590 P.3d 901, 902 (2002), the Nevada Supreme Court affirmed the rejection of a habeas petition that was filed two days late, pursuant to the "clear and unambiguous" mandatory provisions of NRS 34.726(1). Gonzales reiterated the importance of filing the petition with the District Court within the one-year mandate, absent a showing of "good cause" for the delay in filing. Gonzales, 590 P.3d at 902. The one-year time bar is therefore strictly construed. In contrast with the short amount of time to file a notice of appeal, a prisoner has an ample full year to file a post-conviction habeas petition, so there is no injustice in a strict application of NRS 34.726(1), despite any alleged difficulties with the postal system. Gonzales, 118 Nev. at 595, 53 P.3d at 903.

Here, Defendant claims that he is not challenging his Judgement of Conviction but appears to argue that his judgment of conviction is void because the jury was instructed on premeditation and deliberation pursuant to the <u>Kazalyn v. State</u>, 108 Nev. 67, 825 P.2d 578 (1992) interpretation of NRS 200.030(1)(a) instead of <u>Byford v. State</u>, 116 Nev. 215, 994 P.2d 700 (2000). Petition at 5-6. This is clearly a challenge to the validity of Defendant's sentence, and therefore this Petition would only be timely if brought within a year of the filing of Defendant's judgement of Conviction or remittitur if Defendant appealed.

Defendant's Judgment of Conviction was filed on December 2, 1999. He filed a Notice of Appeal on December 14, 1999, and the Nevada Supreme Court issued its remittitur on March 6, 2001. Accordingly, Defendant had until approximately March 6, 2002, to file a post-conviction petition. The instant motion was not filed until January 19, 2019, more than 17 years later. Therefore, absent a showing of good cause, Defendant's motion must be denied as time-barred pursuant to NRS 34.726(1). NRS 34.726 can only be overcome upon a showing of good cause and prejudice or actual innocence, which Defendant fails to demonstrate. Accordingly, this Court finds Defendant's Petition must be denied.

D. Defendant's Petition is Successive and an Abuse of the Writ

Defendant's instant petition must be dismissed pursuant to NRS 34.810 as it is successive and an abuse of the writ. NRS 34.810 provides in pertinent part that:

2. 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 Defendant to assert those grounds in a prior petition constituted an abuse of the writ.

3. Pursuant to subsections 1 and 2, the petitioner has the burden of pleading and proving specific facts that demonstrate:

(a) Good cause for the petitioner's failure to present the claim or for presenting the claim again; and

(b) Actual prejudice to the petitioner.

Defendant filed five previous Petitions for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-Conviction) on January 30, 2002, February 18, 2011, December 9, 2014, January 5, 2016, and January 26, 2016. Each petition was duly considered and denied by the Court. Consequently, the instant petition filed on January 19, 2019, is a successive petition. Moreover, Defendant raises the exact same claim he raised on direct appeal and in his December 26, 2013, petition. As such, the instant petition is also an abuse of the writ. See also Pellegrini v. State, 117 Nev. 860, 888, 34 P.3d 519, 538 (2001); Hall v. State, 91 Nev. 314, 315, 535 P.2d 797, 798 (1975).

To avoid the procedural default under NRS 34.810, Defendant has the burden of pleading and proving specific facts that demonstrate both good cause for his failure to present his claim in a timely manner and actual prejudice, which Defendant fails to demonstrate. NRS 34.810(3); <u>Hogan v. Warden</u>, 109 Nev. 952, 959-60, 860 P.2d 710, 715-16 (1993); <u>Phelps v. Director</u>, 104 Nev. 656, 659, 764 P.2d 1303, 1305 (1988). Thus, this Court finds the instant Petition must be denied.

II. DEFENDANT CANNOT ESTABLISH GOOD CAUSE TO OVERCOME THE PROCEDURAL BARS

To avoid procedural default under NRS 34.726 or NRS 34.800, a defendant has the burden of pleading and proving specific facts that demonstrate good cause for his failure to present his claim in earlier proceedings or comply with the statutory requirements. See Hogan, 109 Nev. at 959-60, 860 P.2d at 715-16; Phelps, 104 Nev. at 659, 764 P.2d at 1305.

"To establish good cause, appellants *must* show that an impediment external to the defense prevented their compliance with the applicable procedural rule." Clem v. State, 119

Nev. 615, 621, 81 P.3d 521, 525 (2003) (emphasis added); see Hathaway v. State, 119 Nev. 248, 251, 71 P.3d 503, 506 (2003); Pellegrini, 117 Nev. at 887, 34 P.3d at 537. Such an external impediment could be "that the factual or legal basis for a claim was not reasonably available to counsel, or that 'some interference by officials' made compliance impracticable." Hathaway, 119 Nev. at 251, 71 P.3d at 506 (quoting Murray v. Carrier, 477 U.S. 478, 488, 106 S. Ct. 2639, 2645 (1986)); see also Gonzalez, 118 Nev. at 595, 53 P.3d at 904 (citing Harris v. Warden, 114 Nev. 956, 959-60 n.4, 964 P.2d 785 n.4 (1998)). Any delay in filing of the petition must not be the fault of the petitioner. NRS 34.726(1)(a).

The Nevada Supreme Court has clarified that a defendant cannot attempt to manufacture good cause. Clem, 119 Nev. at 621, 81 P.3d at 526. To find good cause there must be a "substantial reason; one that affords a legal excuse." Hathaway, 119 Nev. at 251, 71 P.3d at 506. Excuses such as the lack of assistance of counsel when preparing a petition, as well as the failure of trial counsel to forward a copy of the file to a petitioner have been found not to constitute good cause. See Phelps, 104 Nev. at 660, 764 P.2d at 1306, superseded by statute on other grounds as recognized in Nika v. State, 120 Nev. 600, 607, 97 P.3d 1140, 1145 (2004); Hood v. State, 111 Nev. 335, 890 P.2d 797 (1995). Moreover, a return to state court to exhaust remedies for federal habeas is not good cause to overcome state procedural bars. Colley v. State, 105 Nev. 235, 236, 773 P.2d 1229, 1230 (1989).

Finally, claims asserted in a petition for post-conviction relief must be supported with specific factual allegations, which if true, would entitle the petitioner to relief. Hargrove v. State, 100 Nev. 498, 502, 686 P.2d 222, 225 (1984). "Bare" and "naked" allegations are not sufficient, nor are those belied and repelled by the record. <u>Id</u>.

Defendant fails to assert any good cause for his procedural default. Instead, he argues, as discussed, supra, that the procedural bars do not apply to him. For the reasons discussed, they do. Defendant also relies on Montgomery v. Louisiana, 136 S.Ct. 718, 193 L.Ed.2d 599 (2016) and Welch v. U.S., 136 S.Ct. 1257, 194 L.Ed.2d 387 (2016) to argue that he could not bring a timely claim because he had cases pending on appeal when these cases were decided. Petition at 7. This claim lacks merit. Both Montgomery and Welch analyze when Byford

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should be applied retroactively to cases that were final when <u>Byford</u> was decided. At the time <u>Byford</u> was decided, Defendant's case was pending on appeal and therefore not a final decision. The case most favorable to Defendant is <u>Nika v. State</u>, 124 Nev. 1272, 198 P.3d 839 (2008) which allowed for <u>Byford</u> to apply to cases pending on appeal at the time <u>Byford</u> pronounced a change in law, and Defendant failed to file a petition within one year after <u>Nika</u> was decided. Moreover, Defendant could and should have previously raised these issues in an earlier petition. As such, Defendant fails to establish an impediment external to the defense and therefore does not constitute good cause to overcome the procedural bars. <u>Phelps v. Director, Nevada Department of Prisons</u>, 104 Nev. 656, 764 P.2d 1303 (1988). Accordingly, Defendant cannot demonstrate good cause and this Court finds Defendant's Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus must be denied.

ORDER

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Petition for Post-Conviction Relief, shall be, and it is, hereby denied.

DATED this ______day of April, 2019.

DISTRICT JUDGE

STEVEN B. WOLFSON Clark County District Attorney Nevada Bar #001565

BY

CHARLES W. THOMAN Of Chief Deputy District Attorne

2 Nevada Bar #12649

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that service of the above and foregoing was made this 5th day of April, 2019, by depositing a copy in the U.S. Mail, postage pre-paid, addressed to:

BRENDAN JAMES NASBY #63618 LOVELOCK CORRECTIONAL CENTER 1200 Prison Road Lovelock, NV 89419

BY /s/D. Daniels
Secretary for the District Attorney's Office

98F11168/QH-Appeals/dd/MVU

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BRENDAN NASBY,

VS.

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DISTRICT COURT
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Case No: A-18-788126-W

Dept No: XIX

RENEE BAKER WARDEN; ET AL,

Respondent,

Petitioner,

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on April 12, 2019, the court entered a decision or order in this matter, a true and correct copy of which is attached to this notice.

You may appeal to the Supreme Court from the decision or order of this court. If you wish to appeal, you must file a notice of appeal with the clerk of this court within thirty-three (33) days after the date this notice is mailed to you. This notice was mailed on April 15, 2019.

STEVEN D. GRIERSON, CLERK OF THE COURT

/s/ Debra Donaldson

Debra Donaldson, Deputy Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF E-SERVICE / MAILING

I hereby certify that on this 15 day of April 2019, I served a copy of this Notice of Entry on the following:

☑ By e-mail:

Clark County District Attorney's Office Attorney General's Office – Appellate Division-

☐ The United States mail addressed as follows: Brendan Nasby # 63618

Brendan Nasby # 6361 1200 Prison Rd. Lovelock, NV 89419

/s/ Debra Donaldson

Debra Donaldson, Deputy Clerk

Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT 1 **FCL** STEVEN B. WOLFSON 2 Clark County District Attorney Nevada Bar #001565 3 CHARLES W. THOMAN Chief Deputy District Attorney 4 Nevada Bar #12649 200 Lewis Avenue 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89155-2212 (702) 671-2500 6 Attorney for Plaintiff 7 DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 8 9 THE STATE OF NEVADA. Plaintiff. 10 CASE NO: A-19-788126-W 11 -vs-**DEPT NO:** XIX 12 BRENDAN JAMES NASBY, #1517690 13 Defendant. 14 FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF 15 LAW AND ORDER 16 DATE OF HEARING: March 25, 2019 TIME OF HEARING: 08:30 ÁM 17 THIS CAUSE having come on for hearing before the Honorable WILLIAM D. 18 KEPHART, District Judge, on the 25th day of March, 2019, the Petitioner not being present, 19 the Respondent being represented by STEVEN B. WOLFSON, Clark County District 20 Attorney, by and through BERNARD ZADROWSKI, Chief Deputy District Attorney, and the 21 Court having considered the matter, including briefs, transcripts, arguments of counsel, and 22 documents on file herein, now therefore, the Court makes the following findings of fact and 23 conclusions of law: 24 25 /// 26 /// 27 /// /// 28

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FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

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On December 9, 2014, Defendant filed his third Post-Conviction Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus. The State responded on February 4, 2015. This Court denied Defendant's Petition as procedurally barred on February 25, 2015. Defendant filed a Notice of Appeal on March 13, 2015. This Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law was filed on March 30, 2015. On September 11, 2015, the Nevada Supreme Court affirmed the Court's denial of Defendant's third petition as untimely, successive, and an abuse of the writ without a showing of good cause and prejudice.

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ANALYSIS

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State v. Dist. Court (Riker), 121 Nev. 225, 112 P.3d 1070 (2005) (emphasis added). Additionally, the Court noted that procedural bars "cannot be ignored [by the district court] when properly raised by the State." <u>Id.</u> at 233, 112 P.3d at 1075. The Nevada Supreme Court has granted no discretion to the district courts regarding whether to apply the statutory procedural bars; the rules must be applied. For the reasons discussed below, this Court finds Defendant's Petition must be denied.

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B. Defendant's Petition is Barred by Laches

NRS 34.800 creates a rebuttable presumption of prejudice to the State if "[a] period exceeding five years between the filing of a judgment of conviction, an order imposing a sentence of imprisonment or a decision on direct appeal of a judgment of conviction and the filing of a petition challenging the validity of a judgment of conviction...." The statute also requires that the State plead laches in its motion to dismiss the petition. NRS 34.800. The State pleaded laches in the instant case.

The Judgment of Conviction was filed on December 2, 1999. Defendant filed the instant Petition on January 11, 2019. Since more than 19 years have elapsed since the date the Judgment of Conviction was filed and the filing of the instant petition, NRS 34.800 directly applies in this case. The delay is more than triple the five years required for a presumption of prejudice to arise. After such a passage of time, this Court finds the State is prejudiced in its ability to retry this case should relief be granted.

C. Defendant's Motion is Time Barred

The mandatory provision of NRS 34.726(1) states:

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 after 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:

(emphasis added). "[T]he statutory rules regarding procedural default are mandatory and cannot be ignored when properly raised by the State." <u>State v. Dist. Court (Riker)</u>, 121 Nev. 225, 233, 112 P.3d 1070, 1075 (2005).

Accordingly, the one-year time bar prescribed 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. Dickerson v. State, 114 Nev. 1084, 1087, 967 P.2d 1132, 1133-34 (1998); see Pellegrini v. State, 117 Nev. 860, 873, 34 P.3d 519, 528 (2001) (holding that NRS 34.726 should be construed by its plain meaning).

In Gonzales v. State, 118 Nev. 590, 593, 590 P.3d 901, 902 (2002), the Nevada Supreme Court affirmed the rejection of a habeas petition that was filed two days late, pursuant to the "clear and unambiguous" mandatory provisions of NRS 34.726(1). Gonzales reiterated the importance of filing the petition with the District Court within the one-year mandate, absent a showing of "good cause" for the delay in filing. Gonzales, 590 P.3d at 902. The one-year time bar is therefore strictly construed. In contrast with the short amount of time to file a notice of appeal, a prisoner has an ample full year to file a post-conviction habeas petition, so there is no injustice in a strict application of NRS 34.726(1), despite any alleged difficulties with the postal system. Gonzales, 118 Nev. at 595, 53 P.3d at 903.

Here, Defendant claims that he is not challenging his Judgement of Conviction but appears to argue that his judgment of conviction is void because the jury was instructed on premeditation and deliberation pursuant to the <u>Kazalyn v. State</u>, 108 Nev. 67, 825 P.2d 578 (1992) interpretation of NRS 200.030(1)(a) instead of <u>Byford v. State</u>, 116 Nev. 215, 994 P.2d 700 (2000). Petition at 5-6. This is clearly a challenge to the validity of Defendant's sentence, and therefore this Petition would only be timely if brought within a year of the filing of Defendant's judgement of Conviction or remittitur if Defendant appealed.

Defendant's Judgment of Conviction was filed on December 2, 1999. He filed a Notice of Appeal on December 14, 1999, and the Nevada Supreme Court issued its remittitur on March 6, 2001. Accordingly, Defendant had until approximately March 6, 2002, to file a post-conviction petition. The instant motion was not filed until January 19, 2019, more than 17 years later. Therefore, absent a showing of good cause, Defendant's motion must be denied as time-barred pursuant to NRS 34.726(1). NRS 34.726 can only be overcome upon a showing of good cause and prejudice or actual innocence, which Defendant fails to demonstrate. Accordingly, this Court finds Defendant's Petition must be denied.

D. Defendant's Petition is Successive and an Abuse of the Writ

Defendant's instant petition must be dismissed pursuant to NRS 34.810 as it is successive and an abuse of the writ. NRS 34.810 provides in pertinent part that:

2. 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 Defendant to assert those grounds in a prior petition constituted an abuse of the writ.

3. Pursuant to subsections 1 and 2, the petitioner has the burden of pleading and proving specific facts that demonstrate:

(a) Good cause for the petitioner's failure to present the claim or for presenting the claim again; and

(b) Actual prejudice to the petitioner.

Defendant filed five previous Petitions for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Post-Conviction) on January 30, 2002, February 18, 2011, December 9, 2014, January 5, 2016, and January 26, 2016. Each petition was duly considered and denied by the Court. Consequently, the instant petition filed on January 19, 2019, is a successive petition. Moreover, Defendant raises the exact same claim he raised on direct appeal and in his December 26, 2013, petition. As such, the instant petition is also an abuse of the writ. See also Pellegrini v. State, 117 Nev. 860, 888, 34 P.3d 519, 538 (2001); Hall v. State, 91 Nev. 314, 315, 535 P.2d 797, 798 (1975).

To avoid the procedural default under NRS 34.810, Defendant has the burden of pleading and proving specific facts that demonstrate both good cause for his failure to present his claim in a timely manner and actual prejudice, which Defendant fails to demonstrate. NRS 34.810(3); <u>Hogan v. Warden</u>, 109 Nev. 952, 959-60, 860 P.2d 710, 715-16 (1993); <u>Phelps v. Director</u>, 104 Nev. 656, 659, 764 P.2d 1303, 1305 (1988). Thus, this Court finds the instant Petition must be denied.

II. DEFENDANT CANNOT ESTABLISH GOOD CAUSE TO OVERCOME THE PROCEDURAL BARS

To avoid procedural default under NRS 34.726 or NRS 34.800, a defendant has the burden of pleading and proving specific facts that demonstrate good cause for his failure to present his claim in earlier proceedings or comply with the statutory requirements. See Hogan, 109 Nev. at 959-60, 860 P.2d at 715-16; Phelps, 104 Nev. at 659, 764 P.2d at 1305.

"To establish good cause, appellants *must* show that an impediment external to the defense prevented their compliance with the applicable procedural rule." Clem v. State, 119

Nev. 615, 621, 81 P.3d 521, 525 (2003) (emphasis added); see Hathaway v. State, 119 Nev. 248, 251, 71 P.3d 503, 506 (2003); Pellegrini, 117 Nev. at 887, 34 P.3d at 537. Such an external impediment could be "that the factual or legal basis for a claim was not reasonably available to counsel, or that 'some interference by officials' made compliance impracticable." Hathaway, 119 Nev. at 251, 71 P.3d at 506 (quoting Murray v. Carrier, 477 U.S. 478, 488, 106 S. Ct. 2639, 2645 (1986)); see also Gonzalez, 118 Nev. at 595, 53 P.3d at 904 (citing Harris v. Warden, 114 Nev. 956, 959-60 n.4, 964 P.2d 785 n.4 (1998)). Any delay in filing of the petition must not be the fault of the petitioner. NRS 34.726(1)(a).

The Nevada Supreme Court has clarified that a defendant cannot attempt to manufacture good cause. Clem, 119 Nev. at 621, 81 P.3d at 526. To find good cause there must be a "substantial reason; one that affords a legal excuse." Hathaway, 119 Nev. at 251, 71 P.3d at 506. Excuses such as the lack of assistance of counsel when preparing a petition, as well as the failure of trial counsel to forward a copy of the file to a petitioner have been found not to constitute good cause. See Phelps, 104 Nev. at 660, 764 P.2d at 1306, superseded by statute on other grounds as recognized in Nika v. State, 120 Nev. 600, 607, 97 P.3d 1140, 1145 (2004); Hood v. State, 111 Nev. 335, 890 P.2d 797 (1995). Moreover, a return to state court to exhaust remedies for federal habeas is not good cause to overcome state procedural bars. Colley v. State, 105 Nev. 235, 236, 773 P.2d 1229, 1230 (1989).

Finally, claims asserted in a petition for post-conviction relief must be supported with specific factual allegations, which if true, would entitle the petitioner to relief. Hargrove v. State, 100 Nev. 498, 502, 686 P.2d 222, 225 (1984). "Bare" and "naked" allegations are not sufficient, nor are those belied and repelled by the record. <u>Id</u>.

Defendant fails to assert any good cause for his procedural default. Instead, he argues, as discussed, supra, that the procedural bars do not apply to him. For the reasons discussed, they do. Defendant also relies on Montgomery v. Louisiana, 136 S.Ct. 718, 193 L.Ed.2d 599 (2016) and Welch v. U.S., 136 S.Ct. 1257, 194 L.Ed.2d 387 (2016) to argue that he could not bring a timely claim because he had cases pending on appeal when these cases were decided. Petition at 7. This claim lacks merit. Both Montgomery and Welch analyze when Byford

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should be applied retroactively to cases that were final when <u>Byford</u> was decided. At the time <u>Byford</u> was decided, Defendant's case was pending on appeal and therefore not a final decision. The case most favorable to Defendant is <u>Nika v. State</u>, 124 Nev. 1272, 198 P.3d 839 (2008) which allowed for <u>Byford</u> to apply to cases pending on appeal at the time <u>Byford</u> pronounced a change in law, and Defendant failed to file a petition within one year after <u>Nika</u> was decided. Moreover, Defendant could and should have previously raised these issues in an earlier petition. As such, Defendant fails to establish an impediment external to the defense and therefore does not constitute good cause to overcome the procedural bars. <u>Phelps v. Director, Nevada Department of Prisons</u>, 104 Nev. 656, 764 P.2d 1303 (1988). Accordingly, Defendant cannot demonstrate good cause and this Court finds Defendant's Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus must be denied.

ORDER

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Petition for Post-Conviction Relief shall be, and it is, hereby denied.

DATED this ______day of April, 2019.

DISTRICT JUDGE

STEVEN B. WOLFSON Clark County District Attorney Nevada Bar #001565

BY

CHARLES W. THOMAN Of Chief Deputy District Attorne

2 Nevada Bar #12649

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that service of the above and foregoing was made this 5th day of April, 2019, by depositing a copy in the U.S. Mail, postage pre-paid, addressed to:

BRENDAN JAMES NASBY #63618 LOVELOCK CORRECTIONAL CENTER 1200 Prison Road Lovelock, NV 89419

BY /s/D. Daniels
Secretary for the District Attorney's Office

98F11168/QH-Appeals/dd/MVU

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DISTRICT COURT **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

Writ of Habeas Corpus

COURT MINUTES

March 25, 2019

A-19-788126-W

Brendan Nasby, Plaintiff(s)

Renee Baker Warden, Defendant(s)

March 25, 2019

8:30 AM

Petition for Writ of Habeas

Corpus

HEARD BY: Kephart, William D.

COURTROOM: RJC Courtroom 16B

COURT CLERK: Shannon Emmons

RECORDER:

Christine Erickson

REPORTER:

PARTIES

PRESENT:

JOURNAL ENTRIES

- Court FINDS, this petition is procedurally barred, successive, and an abuse of the Writ process. COURT ORDERED, Petition DENIED.

NDC

CLERK'S NOTE: A copy of this minute order was mailed to:

Brendan Nasby #1517690 1200 Prison Road Lovelock, NV 89419

DISTRICT COURT **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

Writ of Habeas Corpus

COURT MINUTES

April 10, 2019

A-19-788126-W

Brendan Nasby, Plaintiff(s)

Renee Baker Warden, Defendant(s)

April 10, 2019

8:30 AM

Motion for Appointment of

Attorney

HEARD BY: Kephart, William D.

COURTROOM: RJC Courtroom 16B

COURT CLERK: Tia Everett

RECORDER:

Christine Erickson

REPORTER:

PARTIES

PRESENT:

Zadrowski, Bernard B.

Attorney

JOURNAL ENTRIES

- Court noted Defendant not present and in custody with the Nevada Department of Corrections. Further, Court noted Defendant is seeking the appointment of counsel, this motion follows the denial of Defendant's sixth Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus. COURT ORDERED, Motion DENIED as MOOT as the Petition was previously denied on 3/25/2019 and Defendant has provided no legal reason as to why counsel should be appointed and Defendant is not entitled to counsel at this point.

NDC

CLERK'S NOTE: The above minute order has been distributed to:

BRENDAN NASBY # 63618 LOVELOCK CORRECTIONAL CENTER 1200 PRISON ROAD LOVELOCK, NV 89419

PRINT DATE: 05/07/2019 Page 2 of 2 Minutes Date: March 25, 2019



EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT CLERK'S OFFICE NOTICE OF DEFICIENCY ON APPEAL TO NEVADA SUPREME COURT

BRENDAN JAMES NASBY #63618 1200 PRISON RD. LOVELOCK, NV 89419

> DATE: May 7, 2019 CASE: A-19-788126-W

RE CASE: BRENDAN JAMES NASBY vs. RENEE BAKER (WARDEN)

NOTICE OF APPEAL FILED: May 2, 2019

YOUR APPEAL HAS BEEN SENT TO THE SUPREME COURT.

PLEASE NOTE: DOCUMENTS **NOT** TRANSMITTED HAVE BEEN MARKED:

	\$250 – Supreme Court Filing Fee (Make Check Payable to the Supreme Court)** - If the \$250 Supreme Court Filing Fee was not submitted along with the original Notice of Appeal, it must be mailed directly to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court Filing Fee will not be forwarded by this office if submitted after the Notice of Appeal has been filed.
	\$24 – District Court Filing Fee (Make Check Payable to the District Court)**
	\$500 – Cost Bond on Appeal (Make Check Payable to the District Court)** - NRAP 7: Bond For Costs On Appeal in Civil Cases
	Case Appeal Statement - NRAP 3 (a)(1), Form 2
\boxtimes	Written Order re: April 10, 2019 hearing
\boxtimes	Notice of Entry of Written Order re: April 10, 2019 hearing

NEVADA RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE 3 (a) (3) states:

"The district court clerk must file appellant's notice of appeal despite perceived deficiencies in the notice, including the failure to pay the district court or Supreme Court filing fee. The district court clerk shall apprise appellant of the deficiencies in writing, and shall transmit the notice of appeal to the Supreme Court in accordance with subdivision (e) of this Rule with a notation to the clerk of the Supreme Court setting forth the deficiencies. Despite any deficiencies in the notice of appeal, the clerk of the Supreme Court shall docket the appeal in accordance with Rule 12."

Please refer to Rule 3 for an explanation of any possible deficiencies.

**Per District Court Administrative Order 2012-01, in regards to civil litigants, "...all Orders to Appear in Forma Pauperis expire one year from the date of issuance." You must reapply for in Forma Pauperis status.

Certification of Copy

State of Nevada	}	SS:
County of Clark		

I, 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):

NOTICE OF APPEAL; CASE APPEAL STATEMENT; DISTRICT COURT DOCKET ENTRIES; CIVIL COVER SHEET; FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AD ORDER; NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER; DISTRICT COURT MINUTES; NOTICE OF DEFICIENCY

BRENDAN JAMES NASBY,

Plaintiff(s),

VS.

RENEE BAKER (WARDEN),

Defendant(s),

now on file and of record in this office.

Case No: A-19-788126-W

Dept No: XIX

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto Set my hand and Affixed the seal of the Court at my office, Las Vegas, Nevada This 7 day of May 2019.

Steven D. Grierson, Clerk of the Court

Heather Ungermann, Deputy Clerk