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13		FOR THE COU	NTY OF SAN MATEO
14	In re		Case No. SC055500A
15	SCOTT I FE	E PETERSON	CAPITAL CASE
16	SCOTT LLI	LILILKSON	Related to: California Supreme Court No.
17	On Habeas (Corpus.	S230782 (on habeas corpus) and No. S132449 (on direct appeal).
18			DENIAL TO RETURN TO ORDER TO
19			SHOW CAUSE
20			Hon. Anne-Christine Massullo
21			San Francisco Superior Court Judge, Sitting
22			by Designation in San Mateo Superior Court
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DENIAL TO RETURN TO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

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DENIAL TO RETURN TO ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

TO THE HONORABLE ANNE-CHRISTINE MASSULLO, SAN FRANCISCO SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE SITTING AS SAN MATEO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE:

By this verified Denial to Return to Order to Show Cause and Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support thereof, petitioner Scott Lee Peterson, through counsel responds to the Return to the Order to Show Cause (Return).

INTRODUCTION

Petitioner Scott Peterson was convicted of capital murder in connection with the death of his wife, Laci Peterson, and their unborn son, Conner. Mr. Peterson appealed in the California Supreme Court and filed a contemporaneous Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus (Petition). The first claim in the habeas petition alleged that juror 7 committed misconduct in providing materially false information during the jury selection process.

In his Petition, Mr. Peterson detailed the nature of the false information. Questions 54a and 54b of the jury questionnaire asked if prospective jurors had ever been "involved in a lawsuit (other than divorce proceedings)" and, if so, whether they were the plaintiff or defendant. (Petition at p. 97.) Question 72 asked if prospective jurors had ever "participated in a trial as a party, witness or interested observer?" (Petition at p. 98.) And question 74 asked if prospective jurors or their family or close friends had ever been "the victim or witness to any crime." (Petition at p. 98.) Seated juror 7 answered "no" to questions 54a, 72 and 74, and left question 54b blank. (Petition at p. 98.)

Exhibit 45 filed in support of the Petition shows that all these answers were false. In November of 2000, juror 7 – who was four and a half months pregnant at the time – filed a lawsuit against Marcella Kinsey. Juror 7 alleged that because of Ms. Kinsey's conduct she (juror 7) "fears for her unborn child." (Ex. 45 at p. HCP-000908.)¹ Juror 7

All references to Petition Exhibits are "Ex.," references to the Respondent's Return Exhibits are "Return Ex," and references to the exhibits attached to this Denial are "Den. Ex."

alleged that Ms. Kinsey "committed acts of violence against her" and "would try to hurt the baby." (Ex. 45 at p. HCP-000905.) And at the ensuing Superior Court hearing held in connection with her lawsuit, juror 7 testified under oath and obtained a restraining order against Ms. Kinsey. (Ex. 45 at pp. HCP-000912-914.)

In short, the documents show: (1) juror 7 had been involved in a lawsuit; (2) she was the plaintiff; (3) she participated in the lawsuit as both a party and a witness; and (4) she was both the victim of, and a witness to, a crime. The documentary evidence therefore demonstrates that juror 7's answers on the questionnaire were false. Based on these facts, Mr. Peterson alleged in his habeas petition that juror 7 had committed misconduct which raised a presumption of prejudice.

With the Petition and this documentary proffer before it, the Supreme Court ordered respondent to file an Informal Response to the habeas petition. Respondent did so in 2017. In this Informal Response, respondent recognized that juror 7's lawsuit against Ms. Kinsey was indeed a lawsuit. (Informal Response (IR) at p. 27.) Nevertheless, respondent urged the Supreme Court to summarily deny the petition without issuing an order to show cause. Although it did not provide a declaration from juror 7, respondent offered various explanations for juror 7's false answers to questions 54, 72 and 74.

As to Question 54 (involvement in a lawsuit), respondent offered a "money or property" explanation to defend juror 7's answer. Respondent argued that juror 7 must not have understood that her lawsuit against Ms. Kinsey was a lawsuit, because the word "lawsuit" "could reasonably be understood as an action in which one person sues another for money [or] property." (IR at pp. 27-28.) As to Question 72 (testify as a witness), respondent offered a "criminal action" explanation to defend juror 7's answer. Ignoring documentation showing juror 7 testified under oath against Ms. Kinsey at trial on the restraining order, respondent instead argued there was no showing juror 7 ever testified against Ms. Kinsey in a *criminal action*:

Peterson includes no documentation proving Juror No. 7's involvement in

a related criminal trial in Santa Clara County... Peterson has not shown that Ms. Kinsey's conviction for vandalism ... [was] obtained by way of a trial which involved Juror No. 7.

(IR at p. 29.) Finally, as to Question 74 (victim or witness to any crime), respondent offered a "harassment is not a crime" explanation to defend juror 7's denial. In respondent's view, juror 7 did not falsely deny that she had been the victim of a crime because there was no evidence to show she "would have understood Ms. Kinsey's harassment to be a crime." (IR at p. 29.)

After more than three years of consideration, the Supreme Court rejected respondent's arguments by unanimously issuing an Order to Show Cause on the juror misconduct claim. This order required respondent to show cause why relief should not be granted because juror 7 failed to "disclos[e] her prior involvement with other legal proceedings, including but not limited to being the victim of a crime, as alleged in Claim 1." (*In re Peterson*, S230782, Order of October 14, 2020.)

Respondent has now filed its Return. In support of that Return respondent recycles the very same arguments it offered in its Informal Response, but this time provides a declaration from juror 7. Respondent explains that because juror 7 is "represented by counsel . . . the People have not been able to question her *directly*" (Return at p. 51, emphasis added.) It appears, however, that respondent has been able to effectively question juror 7 "indirectly" and, remarkably enough, juror 7's current explanations for her answers to questions 54, 72 and 74 match up almost word-for-word with the positions respondent took in its 2017 Informal Response, long before juror 7 signed her declaration. Fairly read, the similarities are uncanny.

As to Question 54, in her declaration juror 7 offers the precise "money or property" explanation originally offered by respondent in 2017:

I understood the word "lawsuit" to mean and refer to a suit for money or property.

(Return, Ex. 1 at ¶ 10.) As to Question 72, juror 7 offers the precise "criminal action"

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explanation originally offered by respondent in 2017:

I did not testify against [Ms. Kinsey] in any criminal action and cannot state with any level of certainty whether her actions resulted in any conviction.

(Return, Ex. 1 at ¶ 22.) And as to Question 74, juror 7 offers the precise "harassment is not a crime" explanation originally offered by respondent in 2017:

I did not interpret the circumstances leading to the petition for a restraining order as a crime. I still do not.

Minor indignities . . . do not stick out to me, let alone cause me to feel "victimized" the way the law might define that term.

(Return, Ex. 1 at ¶¶ 23-24.) 2

Relying on juror 7's declaration, respondent now formally reiterates the very same position it took years ago in its Informal Response. This Denial follows.

For the most part, this Denial will serve the traditional functions of a Denial to (1) re-allege the factual allegations of the Petition and (2) admit or deny the new factual allegations contained in respondent's Return. In addition, in order to give a clear picture of what factual disputes remain for an evidentiary hearing, this Denial will specify those factual allegations which respondent has admitted, those facts deemed admitted by operation of law, and those facts which it has denied.

But, because of a most unusual feature of this case, the Denial will serve one other function as well. As noted above, the Supreme Court issued an Order to Show Cause to address whether juror 7 failed to "disclos[e] her prior involvement with other legal

It is worth noting that when filling out her sworn complaint seeking a restraining order against Ms. Kinsey back in 2000 – under penalty of perjury – juror 7 did not characterize Kinsey's conduct as a "minor indignity." Far from it. As discussed more fully in Mr. Peterson's accompanying Memorandum of Points and Authorities, juror 7 alleged that Ms. Kinsey "threatened to commit acts of violence against" her. (Ex. 45 at p. HCP-000905.) She alleged that Kinsey had "committed acts of violence against" her. (Ibid.) And she alleged that she "really fears for her unborn child." (Ex. 45 at p. HCP-000908.) Juror 7 certainly did not paint a picture of "minor indignities" when she sought (and obtained) the restraining order.

proceedings, including but not limited to being the victim of a crime, as alleged in Claim 1." In its Return, respondent provides documentation showing that juror 7 was both a witness to, and the victim of, yet another crime that she concealed during voir dire. Respondent now concedes that juror 7's ex-boyfriend was charged with domestic violence against juror 7 and pled no contest to battery. (Return at pp. 51-53.) This disclosure has resulted in new investigation on Mr. Peterson's part in connection with the identical jury misconduct claim on which the Order to Show Cause was issued. That new investigation has itself resulted in additional factual allegations – presented in section I of this Denial – directly relevant to the existing misconduct claim. Respondent should be ordered to admit or deny these additional factual allegations.

With that explanation in mind, this Denial is divided into four sections. Section I will detail new factual allegations premised on the discovery that juror 7 was a witness to, and the victim of, yet another crime which she did not reveal during voir dire – a 2001 battery. These are new factual allegations directly supporting Mr. Peterson's misconduct claim and which respondent should be required to admit or deny. Section II will address the existing juror misconduct claim and will set forth those factual allegations of the Petition which respondent has explicitly admitted, those which are deemed admitted by operation of law, and those which have been denied. Section III will address those additional factual allegations respondent has made outside the context of admitting or denying the factual allegations from the Petition which support the misconduct claim. Finally, section IV will formally re-incorporate each of the factual allegations of the Petition.

As discussed more fully in the accompanying Memorandum of Points and Authorities, and despite respondent's many admissions, there remain numerous material facts in dispute. An evidentiary hearing is therefore required. At that point, the matter can be fully briefed.

I. PETITIONER'S NEW FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS BASED ON

EVIDENCE RESPONDENT REVEALED IN ITS RETURN

As noted above, question 74 on the jury questionnaire asked juror 7 if she or her family or close friends had ever "been the victim or witness to any crime." (Petition at p. 98.) Seated juror 7 answered "no." (Petition at p. 98.) The Supreme Court has now ordered respondent to show cause why relief should not be granted because juror 7 failed to "disclos[e] her prior involvement with other legal proceedings, including but not limited to being the victim of a crime, as alleged in Claim 1." (*In re Peterson*, S230782, Order of October 14, 2020.)

The following factual allegations in support of this claim are based on (1) material referenced on pages 51-53 in respondent's Return to Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, (2) material attached as Exhibit 2 to respondent's Return and (3) subsequent investigation:

- 1. In November 2001, juror 7 was living with Eddie Whiteside.
- 2. In November 2001, juror 7 was dating Eddie Whiteside.
- 3. On November 2, 2001, Eddie Whiteside was arrested and charged in San Mateo Superior Court with (1) corporal injury on a spouse/cohabitant, a violation of Penal Code section 273.5, subdivision (a); (2) battery against a spouse, cohabitant, girlfriend, or former spouse or girlfriend in violation of Penal Code section 243, subdivision (e); (3) false imprisonment in violation of Penal Code section 236 (4) cruelty to a child in violation of Penal Code section 273A, subdivision (b); and (5) battery in violation of Penal Code section 242. (See Return, Ex. 2 at pp. 2020 00023-00024.)
 - 4. These offenses were alleged to have occurred on November 2, 2001. (Ibid.)
- 5. On December 11, 2001, defendant Whiteside was ordered not to "annoy, harass, strike, threaten, sexually assault, batter, [or] stalk . . . the protected persons named below" and not to come "within 100 yards of the protected persons named below." (*Id.* at pp. 2020_00029-00030.)

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7. On January 2, 2002, defendant Whiteside pled no contest to battery (count 5). (Id.)

Juror 7 and "Baby Doe" were the protected persons. (Id. at p. 2020 00030;

- 7. On January 2, 2002, defendant Whiteside pled no contest to battery (count 5). (*Id.* at p. 2020 00032.)
- 8. On January 2, 2002, defendant Whiteside was ordered to "complete at least 104 hours of domestic violence counseling within 12 months." (*Id.* at p. 2020 00034.)
- 9. On January 2, 2002, defendant Whiteside was again ordered not to have contact with or come within 100 yards of "the protected persons named below" (Juror 7 and "Baby Doe"). (*Id.* at p. 2020_00036-00037.)
- 10. On January 23, 2002, defendant Whiteside presented the Superior Court with "proof of enrollment in domestic violence batterers' treatment program." (*Id.* at p. 2020_00039.)
- 11. On June 27, 2002, juror 7 gave birth to a child. (Den. Ex. 1 at p. 3.) This child was born 237 days after the November 2, 2001 incidents of domestic violence were perpetrated against juror 7 and "Baby Doe." Counsel for Mr. Peterson are informed and believe that juror 7 was pregnant at the time of the assaults. (See National Institutes of Health,

 About

 Pregnancy
- (https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/pregnancy/conditioninfo) (last updated June 18,
- 2021) [pregnancy usually lasts about forty weeks or 280 days].) Counsel for Mr.
- Peterson further are informed and believe that sometime between when juror 7 became
- pregnant in 2001 and the birth of that child in 2002, but before she filled out the
- questionnaire for Mr. Peterson's trial on March 9, 2004, juror 7 became aware that she
 - had been pregnant at the time of the domestic violence assaults.
 - 12. At 1:39 in the afternoon of October 21, 2020, Modesto Detective Craig Grogan sent an email to San Mateo District Attorney Senior Inspector Bill Massey. Mr. Grogan
- asked Mr. Massey to "[p]lease see what you can find on the DV case involving

- 13. Later that same day Senior Inspector Massey replied with an East Palo Alto Police Department "case display record" confirming that juror 7 was "the 'confidential victim' in the arrest of Whiteside in 2001."
- 14. Juror 7 was, in fact, the adult victim in the charges against Whiteside in *People v. Whiteside*, SM315961A.
- 15. Question 74 in the jury questionnaire asked "[h]ave you, or any member of your family, or close friends, ever been the VICTIM or WITNESS to any crime."
- 16. Juror 7 selected "No."
- 17. Counsel for Mr. Peterson believe that on July 21, 2001, juror 7 was the victim and/or the witness to a crime when Ms. Kinsey violated the temporary restraining order juror 7 had obtained against Ms. Kinsey. (Return, Ex. 2 at p. 2020 00017.)
- 18. Juror 7 did not disclose that she was the victim or a witness to the July 21, 2001 violation of the TRO.
 - 19. By concealing these relevant facts during voir dire and giving false answers on her questionnaire, juror 7 undermined the jury selection process, impairing Mr. Peterson's ability to exercise for-cause and peremptory challenges. This constitutes juror misconduct.

II. FACTS RESPONDENT HAS ADMITTED AND DISPUTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE JUROR MISCONDUCT CLAIM

As noted above, the sole question for this Court's resolution is whether juror 7 failed to "disclos[e] her prior involvement with other legal proceedings, including but not limited to being the victim of a crime, as alleged in Claim 1." (*In re Peterson*, S230782, Order of October 14, 2020.) After all, Mr. Peterson was entitled to be tried by a jury of 12 impartial jurors, not 11.

Mr. Peterson has described the claim above. In brief, he alleged in his Petition

that juror 7 gave false answers to four questions on the jury questionnaire:

- Question 54a (asking if she had been "involved in a lawsuit (other than divorce proceedings)");
- Question 54b (asking if she was the plaintiff or defendant);
- Question 72 (asking if she had ever "participated in a trial as a party, witness or interested observer"); and
- Question 74 (asking if she had ever been the victim of, or witness to, a crime).

(Petition at p. 98.) Juror 7 answered "no" to questions 54a, 72 and 74, and left 54b blank.

To support his claim, Mr. Peterson presented 35 specific factual allegations, set forth in the Petition under Claim One, paragraphs 4-38, at pages 97-108. Respondent admits or denies these allegations as follows.³

A. Factual Allegations Respondent Has Admitted

In its Return, respondent now admits the factual allegations contained in paragraphs 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14 (parts) and 24 (parts). Because these facts have been admitted, they are no longer in dispute, and respondent must accept them for purposes of the evidentiary hearing.

B. Factual Allegations Deemed Admitted by Operation of Law

Allegation 13 of the Petition, relating to juror 7's November 2000 lawsuit against Marcella Kinsey asking for an injunction, reprints the allegations contained in that lawsuit. (Compare Petition at pp. 99-100 [paragraph 13] with Ex. 45 at p. HCP-000907-909 [allegations of lawsuit].) In its Return, respondent neither admits nor denies these factual allegations but instead makes the purely legal argument that "the document speaks for itself." (Return at pp. 25-26.)

Similarly, allegation 36 of the Petition alleges that trial counsel for Mr. Peterson

The juror misconduct claim is actually supported by 41 numbered paragraphs of allegations. (Petition at pp. 96-108.) But as respondent correctly notes, a number of these paragraphs are not factual allegations, but statements of law. The factual allegations underlying the claim are contained in paragraphs 4-38.

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reviewed juror 7's written questionnaire and recalled that she said she had never been the victim of a crime, had never been involved in a lawsuit and never participated in a trial as a witness or participant. (Petition at p. 107.) Here too respondent does not provide a factual response to the allegation but instead denies the allegation because trial counsel's declaration "speaks for itself." (Return at pp. 25-26.)

Whether documents can actually speak for themselves is beside the point and has nothing to do with the pleading stage of a habeas proceeding. Evidentiary objections to evidence may certainly be raised if and when that evidence is introduced at an evidentiary hearing. But neither case law nor court rules permit this kind of end run around the specific obligation to respond to the factual allegations of a verified petition. To the contrary, when (as here) a verified petition has been filed, and an Order to Show Cause has issued, the "factual allegations of a return must . . . respond to the allegations of the petition" by "stating facts." (People v. Duvall (1995) 9 Cal.4th 464, 476.) California Rule of Court 4.551, subdivision (d) reflects this view, providing that "[a]ny material allegation of the petition not controverted by the return is deemed admitted for purposes of the proceeding." Thus, when respondent does not specifically deny a factual allegation made in a habeas petition, that allegation is deemed admitted. (See In re Fratus (2012) 204 Cal.App.4th 1339, 1351.) Having elected not to present facts to dispute factual allegations 13 and 36 – but only evidentiary objections – these facts are deemed admitted under Rule 4.551.4

Paragraph 16 of the Petition alleged as follows:

During the jury selection process, including in her jury questionnaire (Exh. 44), and oral voir dire, which appears at Exhibit 46 [Voir Dire of (juror 7)], [juror 7] failed to disclose that she and her boyfriend had been [1] victims and [2] witnesses of Marcella's crimes against [juror 7] and her unborn child.

At the beginning of its Return, the state adds a boilerplate general denial stating that "except as expressly stated" all factual allegations of the Petition are denied. (Return at p. 7.) Because a general denial is entirely impermissible in a habeas case, this allegation has no effect. (Duvall, supra, 9 Cal.4th at pp. 479-483.)

In its Return, respondent (1) denies that juror 7 failed to disclose that she had been the victim of a crime (allegation [1] in the above quote) but (2) does not address whether she failed to disclose that she had been a *witness* to Ms. Kinsey's crimes [allegation [2] in the above quote). Pursuant to Rule 4.551, juror 7's failure to disclose that she had been a witness to Ms. Kinsey's crimes is therefore deemed admitted by operation of law.

In allegations 20 and 21 Mr. Peterson alleged as follows:

The extremely lengthy trial imposed a financial hardship on [juror 7]. During the trial she was forced to borrow money from a fellow juror, who loaned her \$1000. The juror who loaned [juror 7] the \$1000 made a gift of it to her and told her that she did not have to repay it.

In its Return, respondent denies these allegations, respectively, as "irrelevant to the question before this court" and "not relevant." (Return at pp. 29-30.) Similarly, respondent makes multiple evidentiary objections to the declarations of other jurors submitted by Mr. Peterson as exhibits 50 and 51 to the Petition. (Return at pp. 69-79 [objecting to various statements in those declarations as irrelevant, lacking in foundation, improper opinion, hearsay, juror mental process, speculation, vague, and overbroad].)

But as noted above, the pleading stage of a habeas case is not the place to make evidentiary objections. Instead, the Return must "respond to the allegations of the petition" by "stating facts." (*Duvall, supra*, 9 Cal.4th at p. 476.) To the extent respondent believes a petitioner's specific factual allegation in a verified petition is inadmissible, the proper response is to admit or deny the fact and then object to the admissibility of the fact. Respondent itself took this approach in connection with other factual allegations. (See, e.g., Return at p. 31 [denying factual allegation 24 and making a separate argument as to admissibility].) Because respondent did not respond to allegations 20 and 21 with facts, and pursuant to Rule 4.551, these allegations are deemed admitted by operation of law. If respondent genuinely believes these facts are irrelevant, it remains free to make that legal argument in any post-hearing briefing.

In allegation 24 Mr. Peterson alleged as follows:

[1] [Juror 7's] bias, based on her own victimization as a woman whose

unborn child was threatened by another, was confirmed during deliberations. [2] Ten jurors voted to convict Mr. Peterson of second degree murder of the unborn child. [3] [Juror 7] was a holdout juror, who strenuously argued that the killing of the unborn child was first degree murder. (Exh. 8 at HCP- 000238.) [4] During deliberations, [Juror 7] passionately, and personally, argued to her fellow-jurors, "How can you not kill the baby?, [Juror 7] said, pointing to her stomach." (*Ibid.*) [5] As the jurors recounted the deliberations, "The issue of fetus versus a living child also came into play for some jurors, but not for [Juror 7]. [6] "That was no fetus, that was a child,' [Juror 7] said. 'Everyone heard I referred to him as 'Little Man.' If he could have been born, he would have survived. It's unfair. He didn't give that baby a chance."" (*Ibid.*)

This allegation was based on quotes taken from a book juror 7 co-authored with other jurors. In its Return, respondent admits that juror 7 was one of two holdouts for first degree murder in connection with Conner – allegations [2] and [3] in the above paragraph. (Return at p. 31.) Respondent then denies the remaining allegations, claiming that juror 7 was not biased. (Return at p. 31.) But respondent neither admits nor denies the specific statements attributed to juror 7 in allegations [4], [5], and [6] in the above paragraph. Pursuant to Rule 4.551, these specific allegations as to what juror 7 said during deliberations are deemed admitted by operation of law.⁵

C. Factual Allegations Respondent Denies

Respondent denies the factual allegations contained in paragraphs 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38. Eight of these 23 denials are entirely semantic and do not place material facts at issue. There is no need to waste scarce judicial and court resources with further litigation as to these allegations. The remaining 15 denials create genuine disputed issues of material fact necessitating an evidentiary hearing.

⁵ Respondent argues that this evidence is inadmissible pursuant to Evidence Code section 1150. (Return at p. 31.) Respondent is free to make that argument at any hearing when this evidence is introduced – as noted above, the pleading stage of a habeas action is not the place to lodge or rule on evidentiary objections.

1. Purely Semantic Denials

In factual allegation 12, Mr. Peterson alleged as follows:

Case files obtained from the San Mateo Superior Court disclose that on November 27, 2000, [juror 7] filed a lawsuit, entitled "Petition for Injunction Prohibiting Harassment" against one, Marcella Kinsey. (Exh. 45 [[Juror 7] v. Marcella Kinsey, San Mateo Superior Court No. 415040, filed Nov. 27, 2000].)

In its Return, respondent denies this allegation, explaining that the lawsuit brought by juror 7 "was not titled a lawsuit" but "[a]s petitioner acknowledges, it was entitled 'Petition for Injunction Prohibiting Harassment." (Return at p. 24.) Semantics aside, there is no dispute that juror 7 did indeed sue Ms. Kinsey on November 27, 2000, to obtain an injunction.

In factual allegation 14, Mr. Peterson alleged as follows:

Following an evidentiary hearing at which both [juror 7] and defendant Marcella were sworn and testified, the superior court entered an order prohibiting Marcella Kinsey from harassing both [juror 7] and her unborn child for a period of three years. (*Id.* at HCP-000914.)

In its Return, respondent "admit[s] some portions of this [allegation] and den[ies] others," explaining that the hearing at which both juror 7 and Kinsey testified to provide evidence for the court was a "'hearing,' not an evidentiary hearing." (Return at p. 27.) Semantics aside there is no dispute that juror 7 did indeed testify during her lawsuit against Kinsey.

In factual allegations 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32, Mr. Peterson alleged specific statements juror 7 made in her letters to Mr. Peterson, attaching those letters as exhibits to the Petition. In its Return, respondent denies all these factual allegations, providing its explanations for what the letters really mean in its view. (Return at pp. 32-35.)

With all due respect, these types of denials should have no place in the habeas pleading process. And these denials are all the more puzzling because in respondent's Memorandum of Points and Authorities, it admits that juror 7 wrote letters to Mr. Peterson. (Return at p. 41.) On this issue, Mr. Peterson will be brief: the purpose of the

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pleadings in a habeas case is to narrow the factual issues in dispute so that all parties and the Court are aware of what genuinely needs to be litigated at the evidentiary hearing. Here, respondent does not dispute that (1) juror 7 wrote these letters and (2) the letters say what the letters say. Respondent's current interpretation of what the letters *mean* may be appropriate in post-hearing briefing, but scarce court time and judicial resources should not have to be spent on determining whether, in fact, juror 7 wrote the letters. Respondent's denial is purely semantic and should be deemed an admission of Mr. Peterson's allegations.

2. Denials of a Material Fact

In allegation 11 Mr. Peterson alleged that juror 7's answers to questions 54a, 54b, 72 and 74 were all false. Respondent denies this allegation, explaining that the answers were based on juror 7's "understanding of the terms used." (Return at p. 24.) Thus, whether these answers were true or false is plainly a material, disputed fact.

In allegation 15 Mr. Peterson alleged as follows:

Further, as a result of her malicious conduct against [juror 7], Ms. Kinsey was convicted of the crime of vandalism and was sentenced to a week in county jail. (HCP-000916.)

Respondent admits that Ms. Kinsey was convicted of vandalism. (Return at p. 27.) But respondent alleges that it was Mr. Whiteside who was the victim of the vandalism because it was "his tires" that were slashed. (Return at p. 27; but see Ex. 45 at p. HCP-000909 [Juror 7 swears under oath that Ms. Kinsey "kicked in the front door to [juror 7's] house."].) Although the question of who was the victim of Ms. Kinsey's vandalism is now a plainly disputed fact, it may not in the end be material. Question 74 asked juror 7 if she had ever been the victim of, *or a witness to*, a crime. Regardless of whether she was the victim of the vandalism of which Ms. Kinsey was convicted, respondent does not dispute that she was a witness to (1) Ms. Kinsey's threatening and assaultive conduct as to juror 7 herself (which formed the basis of the lawsuit seeking an injunction) and (2)

Ms. Kinsey's vandalism, no matter who the victim was.

In allegation 16, Mr. Peterson alleged as follows:

During the jury selection process, including in her July questionnaire (Exh. 44), and oral voir dire, which appears at Exhibit 46 [Voir Dire of [juror 7]], [juror 7] failed to disclose that she and her boyfriend had been victims and witnesses of Marcella's crimes against [juror 7] and her unborn child.

As noted above, in its Return, respondent denies that juror 7 failed to disclose that she had been the victim of a crime, explaining that (1) Mr. Whiteside was the victim of Ms. Kinsey's vandalism, (2) Mr. Whiteside was not "family or a close friend" and (3) juror 7 never considered herself a victim. (Return at p. 28.) Thus, respondent does not dispute that juror 7 failed to disclose she had been the victim of a crime. Instead, respondent disputes whether she was required to do so.

In allegation 17, Mr. Peterson alleged as follows:

During the jury selection process, including in her jury questionnaire and oral voir dire, [juror 7] failed to disclose that she had filed a lawsuit against Marcella to prevent Marcella from harming [juror 7] and her unborn child.

In its Return, respondent denies that juror 7 failed to disclose that she had filed a lawsuit against Marcella Kinsey, explaining that juror 7 did not know the legal proceeding she herself had instituted as plaintiff was a lawsuit. (Return at p. 28.) Thus, respondent does not dispute that juror 7 failed to disclose she had filed a lawsuit against Kinsey. Instead, respondent disputes whether she was required to do so.

In allegation 18 Mr. Peterson alleged as follows:

During the jury selection process, including in her jury questionnaire and oral voir dire, [juror 7] failed to disclose that she was sworn and testified in court in order to obtain a restraining order against Marcella to prevent Marcella from harming [juror 7] and her unborn child.

In its Return, respondent denies that juror 7 failed to disclose that she had testified in her lawsuit against Ms. Kinsey, explaining that juror 7 did not know her sworn testimony was

in connection with a trial. (Return at pp. 28-29.) Thus, respondent does not dispute that juror 7 failed to disclose that she had testified under oath. Instead, respondent disputes whether she was required to do so.

In allegation 19 Mr. Peterson alleged as follows:

[Juror 7] wanted to be on Petitioner's jury. She declined to be excused from serving despite the enormous financial hardship it would cause her. When the court began voir dire, it asked [Juror 7] how long her employer would pay her while she was on jury duty. She responded, "two weeks."

In its Return, respondent admits that juror 7 was asked how long she would be paid for if she was seated, but nevertheless denies this allegation. (Return at p. 29.) Whether juror 7 wanted to be on the jury despite her financial hardship is a material, disputed fact.

In allegations 22 and 23 Mr. Peterson alleged that juror 7:

wanted to sit in judgment of Mr. Peterson, in part to punish him for a crime of harming his unborn child – a crime that she personally experienced when Marcella Kinsey threatened [juror 7]'s life and the life of [juror 7]'s unborn child. For this reason, [juror 7] was actually biased against Petitioner.

In its Return, respondent denies these allegations. (Return at p. 30.) Whether juror 7 was biased and wanted to be on the jury to punish Mr. Peterson for what she believed he had done to his unborn child, are material, disputed facts.

In factual allegation 25, Mr. Peterson alleged as follows:

Following petitioner's conviction and death sentence, [juror 7] took the extraordinary step of beginning a correspondence with petitioner. Between 2005 and 2007, [juror 7] sent petitioner at least 28 letters.

Although the very first exhibit respondent attaches in support of its Return is a 34-paragraph declaration from juror 7, and many of the letters juror 7 received from Mr. Peterson were printed in People Magazine, respondent nevertheless denies this allegation, explaining that it simply "cannot determine the accuracy of this allegation." (Return at p. 31.) This denial is puzzling not just because respondent has provided a 34-paragraph

declaration from juror 7, but because – despite respondent's professed inability to "determine the accuracy of this allegation" – elsewhere in its Return respondent admits as follows:

[T]he letters were written to Petitioner after Juror No. 7 had heard the evidence in the case, and Petitioner was convicted and sentenced.

Petitioner has the opportunity to delve into his allegations of bias with Juror No. 7 because she corresponded with Petitioner.

(Return at pp. 32, 41.) And later in its Return, respondent presents a three-page discussion of the precise letters it "cannot determine" if juror 7 wrote. (Return at pp. 66-69.) In addition, juror 7 extensively detailed her post-trial correspondence with Mr. Peterson in *We the Jury*, the book she co-wrote with several other jurors. (Ex. 8 at p. HCP-000264.) At the end of the day, however, because respondent has elected to formally deny this specific factual allegation, whether and the extent to which juror 7 wrote to Mr. Peterson after trial remains a material, disputed fact which will have to be proven or disproved at an evidentiary hearing.

In factual allegation 26, Mr. Peterson alleged as follows:

In letters to petitioner, [juror 7] disclosed an obsessive interest in the death of Petitioner's unborn child.

Respondent denies this allegation, explaining that juror 7's letters covered other topics as well. (Return at p. 32.) The nature, substance, and interpretation of these letters, therefore, is a material, disputed fact.

In allegations 33 and 34, Mr. Peterson alleged that in concealing the threat of losing her unborn child to violence, juror 7 concealed a material fact. Respondent denies both allegations. (Return at pp. 35-36.) This is a material, disputed fact.

In allegation 35, 37 and 38, Mr. Peterson alleged several facts related to defense counsel's concern about prospective jurors who wanted to get on the jury to punish Mr. Peterson and what he would have done had juror 7 given truthful answers to questions 54,

72 and 74. In its Return, respondent is either unable to admit or deny these allegations, or denies these allegations, noting that it does not have access to defense counsel's thought process. (Return at pp. 36-37.)

This is not unreasonable, since these three allegations depend on information provided in declarations by defense counsel as to what he did and what his thought process was. (See *Duvall*, *supra*, 9 Cal.4th at pp. 484-486 [noting that especially in connection with ineffective assistance of counsel claims, respondent may not be in a position to admit or deny facts alleged in a habeas petition and therefore "the general rule requiring the pleading of facts should not be enforced in such a draconian fashion so as to defeat the ends of justice."].) Since these factual allegations have not been admitted, they too are properly the subject of an evidentiary hearing.

III. MR. PETERSON'S RESPONSE TO RESPONDENT'S ADDITIONAL

A. Facts Affirmatively Alleged in Respondent's Return

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

One of the purposes of a Denial is to admit or deny any factual allegations which respondent makes in its Return. (*People v. Romero* (1995) 8 Cal.4th 728, 738-739.)

In addition to responding to Mr. Peterson's factual allegations (Return at pp. 19-38), respondent provides a formal, two-page Return. (Return at pp. 6-7.) Though only paragraphs I, II, and III of that two-page formal Return make affirmative, purely factual allegations, Mr. Peterson responds to these allegations and, in addition, to the numbered paragraphs in this section that concern mixed questions of law and fact, though they are merely conclusory (paragraphs IV, V, VI and VIII):

- 1. Respondent alleges that on December 23 or 24, Mr. Peterson killed his wife and unborn son, Conner. (Return at p. 6.) Mr. Peterson denies this allegation.
- 2. Respondent alleges that the jury convicted Mr. Peterson of capital murder and imposed death and the California Supreme Court reversed the death sentence. (Return at

- p. 6.) Mr. Peterson admits this allegation.
- 3. Respondent alleges that in this habeas action, the Supreme Court ordered respondent to show cause why relief should not be granted because juror 7 failed to "disclos[e] her prior involvement with other legal proceedings, including but not limited to being the victim of a crime, as alleged in Claim 1." (Return at p. 6.) Mr. Peterson admits this allegation.
- 4. Respondent contends that Mr. Peterson's juror misconduct claim is not supported by competent or admissible evidence that would warrant an evidentiary hearing as to Claim I. (Return at p. 6.) Mr. Peterson denies this contention, but notes that, as it is asserted in respondent's Return, it is conclusory and unsupported by evidence or specific factual allegations.
- 5. Respondent contends that juror 7's answers or omissions to the questions in the juror questionnaire do not evidence bias against Mr. Peterson. (Return at p. 6.) Mr. Peterson denies this contention, but notes that, as it is asserted in respondent's Return, it is conclusory and unsupported by evidence or specific factual allegations.
- 6. Respondent contends that, even assuming that juror 7 answered questions incorrectly creating an inference of juror misconduct, the presumption of prejudice has been rebutted because the offending conduct alleged by Mr. Peterson does not present a substantial likelihood that juror 7 was actually biased against him. (Return at pp. 6-7.) Mr. Peterson denies this contention, but notes that, as it is asserted in respondent's Return, it is conclusory and unsupported by evidence or specific factual allegations.
- 7. Respondent denies that Mr. Peterson's statutory or constitutional rights were violated in any manner. (Return at p. 7.) Mr. Peterson denies this contention, but notes that, as it is asserted in respondent's Return, it is conclusory and unsupported by evidence or specific factual allegations.

B. Facts "Alleged" in the Memorandum of Points and Authorities

- 1. Respondent purports to incorporate by reference its attached memorandum of points and authorities into its admissions and denials. (Return at p. 7.) That memorandum does not merely include legal analysis explaining respondent's position, it also contains numerous factual allegations and denials (although respondent often does not directly identify them as such). Respondent's pleading technique inappropriately places the burden on Mr. Peterson to tease out potential factual allegations from respondent's legal memorandum, and guess on which allegations respondent is relying, as well as which of Mr. Peterson's allegations respondent is admitting and denying. Despite respondent's tactic, Mr. Peterson nevertheless seeks to aid the court by responding to what he believes are the most significant factual allegations contained in respondent's memorandum of points and authorities. (See Pen. Code, § 1484.)
- 2. Respondent claims that juror 7 "was like all the others who responded to the notice for jury service. She was an average person doing her civic duty" (Return at p. 39); and "Juror No. 7 was not any different from any of the other prospective jurors who appeared for jury service and answered the questions on the questionnaire as they each understood them" (Return at p. 40). Mr. Peterson lacks sufficient information to admit these factual assertions and on that basis denies them, but notes that, as asserted in respondent's Return, they are conclusory and unsupported by evidence or specific factual allegations.
- 3. Respondent claims that Mr. Peterson "has been unable to find any admissible evidence that Juror No. 7 harbored a bias against him"; "nowhere" in the book coauthored by juror 7 "does an example of bias appear"; and in her letters to Mr. Peterson, juror 7 "never admitted to bias." (Return at pp. 40-41.) Mr. Peterson denies these factual assertions and, in response, re-alleges paragraphs 22-35 of the Petition and the exhibits cited therein. (Petition at pp. 102-06.)
- 4. Respondent extensively quotes and relies on a declaration purportedly signed by juror 7 and attached as Exhibit 1 to the Return. (Return at pp. 22-24, 28, 30, 35-37, 39,

44-45, 49-52, 62, 64-66, 80, and Return Exhibit 1.) Unless otherwise stated, Mr. Peterson denies each and every factual assertion in the declaration of juror 7 attached to respondent's return.

IV. REINCORPORATION OF FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS FROM THE **PETITION**

In addition to controverting any factual allegations presented in the Return, a Denial may incorporate the factual allegations of the Petition itself. (Romero, supra, 8 Cal.4th at p. 739.) Mr. Peterson hereby incorporates by reference each and every one of (1) the specific factual allegations in Claim I of his Petition, set forth at pages 96-108 of that Petition and (2) all factual allegations made in all habeas briefing filed in the Supreme Court (see *Duvall*, *supra*, 9 Cal.4th at p. 482 [factual allegations in memoranda supporting habeas pleadings properly considered].).

Mr. Peterson further denies all factual allegations that are in any way contrary to, or inconsistent with the facts alleged in Mr. Peterson's Petition, Reply to the Informal Response, this Denial, and the exhibits offered in support of these pleadings.

V. **CONCLUSION**

Because respondent has raised disputed issues of material fact in connection with Mr. Peterson's jury misconduct claim, an evidentiary hearing is required. In addition, respondent should be ordered to admit or deny the new factual allegations set forth in Section I of this Denial.

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MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. INTRODUCTION

As the Denial makes clear, there are numerous factual disputes between the parties which require resolution at an evidentiary hearing. As such, full briefing on the legal and factual issues prior to resolution of these facts is premature. Instead, the Court should follow the traditional procedure of post-hearing briefing after the factual disputes have been resolved. However, because several positions taken by respondent in its Return and Memorandum of Points and Authorities may impact both the scope and focus of the evidentiary hearing, Mr. Peterson will address them in this Memorandum.

This Memorandum is divided into three sections – a statement of the facts relevant to the juror misconduct claim (omitted by respondent) and two legal arguments. The first argument – presented in section III-A below – will address respondent's novel contention that although the California Supreme Court issued an Order to Show Cause after reviewing Mr. Peterson's factual allegations, many of which respondent now disputes, this Court should refuse to hold an evidentiary hearing and, instead simply "discharge the Order to Show Cause." (Return at p. 7.) As will be discussed below, an evidentiary hearing is required not only based on the plain language of the Supreme Court's order, but because in its Return respondent has explicitly placed at issue numerous material factual allegations of the Petition. The second argument – presented in section III-B below – will discuss several of respondent's arguments in connection with the scope of the evidentiary hearing.

II. STATEMENT OF FACTS

Respondent correctly notes that guilt is "not at issue in this habeas proceeding." (Return at p. 8.) Instead, as respondent also notes, the only issue before this Court is whether juror 7 committed prejudicial misconduct. (Return at p. 8.) It is therefore curious that – quoting from the Supreme Court's opinion in the direct appeal –

respondent provides a lengthy Statement of Facts which does not address the facts relating to the misconduct issue at all, but instead addresses only the crime itself. (Return at pp. 8-19.) Given the absence of a relevant Statement of Facts in respondent's Return, Mr. Peterson will provide a short Statement of Facts directed to the misconduct issue before this Court.

A. The Jury Questionnaire

Jury selection in Mr. Peterson's case began on March 4, 2004. (11 RT 2025.) Prior to voir dire, all prospective jurors completed a juror questionnaire. Juror 7's juror ID number was 16756.⁶ (Ex. 44 at p. HCP-000882.) Juror 7 appeared as part of a jury panel before the trial court on March 9, 2004. (13 RT 2564.) The trial court swore in the members of the jury panel and confirmed that they could accurately and truthfully answer all questions, under penalty of perjury, propounded to them regarding their qualification and competency to serve on the jury. (13 RT 2571.) After introducing the parties, explaining the procedures of a capital case, and explaining hardship, the trial court briefly reviewed the questionnaire with the panel and instructed the prospective jurors to fill out the questionnaire. (13 RT 2589.)

Juror 7 indicated on her questionnaire that she was a 34-year-old woman who grew up in East Palo Alto. (Ex. 44 at p. HCP-000883.) She initially checked that she was "single" but scratched it out and indicated that she had been living with a significant other for five years who was employed as a "mail courier." (Ex. 44 at p. HCP-000884.) She had four children, ages 1, 2, 11 and 15, at least one of whom lived in her home where she also lived with her mother. (Ex. 44 at p. HCP-000885.) She indicated she had some college/or tech school and she had training as a medical assistant and a CNA⁷. (Ex. 44 at p. HCP-000886.) At the time she filled out the questionnaire, she was employed as a

⁶ Juror 7 wrote her ID number as "06756" on her questionnaire, but it appears that this was an error as there was no juror with that ID number who appeared on March 9, 2004, the date indicated on juror 7's questionnaire.

⁷ "CNA" presumably stands for "Certified Nurse's Assistant."

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bank teller for Stanford Federal Credit Union and had been with the bank for approximately one year. (Ex. 44 at p. HCP-000887.) She stated that when she was younger she wanted to be a lawyer and that she had taken a citizen police academy class. (Ex. 44 at p. HCP-000888.)

Question 54a asked whether she had "ever been involved in a lawsuit (other than divorce proceedings)?" Juror 7 put an "x" next to "No." (Ex. 44 at p. HCP-000889.) Next, question 54b, a follow-up to 54a, asked, if yes, whether she had been the plaintiff, defendant or both and asked for an explanation. Juror 7 left that question blank. (Ex. 44) at p. HCP-000890.) In question 68, in response to whether any of her relatives or friends have been arrested or charged with a criminal offense, she checked "yes" and wrote that her brother was in prison. (Ex. 44 at p. HCP-000893.) In response to question 72, which asked whether she had "ever participated in a trial as a party, witness, or interested observer," she checked "No." (Ex. 44 at p. HCP-000894.) She also checked "No" in response to question 74 which asked whether she or any member of her family, or close friends, had ever been a victim or a witness to any crime. (*Ibid.*)

In response to question 87, which asked whether she recognized any of the parties in the case, including Mr. Peterson, she checked "Yes" and wrote "Well who doesn't?" (Ex. 44 at p. HCP-000896.) She also indicated that she had read, heard, and/or seen something about the case, but "just the basic's [sic]." (Ex. 44 at p. HCP-000896-897.) She checked "No" in response to question 101 which asked whether there is anything else the court should know about her qualifications as a juror. (Ex. 44 at p. HCP-000898.) At the end of the questionnaire, Juror 7 attested that it was true and correct to the best of her knowledge, signed it under penalty of perjury and dated it March 9th, 2004. (Ex. 44 at p. HCP-000900.)

Voir Dire of Juror 7

On Monday, March 12, 2004, juror 7 returned to the courtroom for Hovey voir dire. (Ex. 46 at p. HCP-000923.) The trial court first asked whether "they" (meaning her

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In addition to working in the banking and medical field, juror 7 mentioned that she

(Ex. 46 at pp. HCP-000925, 000935.)

also worked for a law firm "that went under." (Ex. 46 at p. HCP-000936.) During defense counsel's questioning she affirmed that she had been exposed to a lot of publicity about the case, mostly through television. (Ex. 46 at p. HCP-000948-949.) At the end of the questioning, the court ordered her to return on May 13th for jury selection. (Ex. 46 at p. HCP-000955.) The court thanked her for "stepping up and practically volunteering to serve." (Ex. 46 at p. HCP-000956.) Juror 7 would initially be picked as alternate juror number 2 (42 RT 8344), and she became juror 7 during deliberations after another juror was removed from the jury. (19 CT 5990.)

C. The Marcella Kinsey Incident

On November 27, 2000, in the same building where she would report for jury service three and a half years later, juror 7 filed a "Petition for Injunction Prohibiting Harassment" against Marcella Kinsey. (Ex. 45 at p. HCP-000905.) On the form, juror 7 indicated that Ms. Kinsey was her ex-boyfriend's ex-girlfriend. (*Ibid.*) The petition stemmed from a September 23, 2000 incident where Ms. Kinsey came to juror 7's house, kicked in her front door, slashed her ex-boyfriend's tires, tried to "mase [sic] Eddie" and was still making threats against juror 7 and her house. (*Ibid.*) Under "persons to be protected" juror 7 listed her name as well as her unborn child. (*Ibid.*)

Juror 7 also provided a narrative description of the crime, making clear she was both a witness to and a victim of vandalism and assault. She identified Eddie Whiteside as her ex-boyfriend. (Ex. 45 at p. HCP-000909.) Ms. Kinsey came to juror 7's house in Mountain View, slashed Mr. Whiteside's tires and yelled and screamed in front of her house. (*Ibid.*) When Mr. Whiteside ran outside to tell Ms. Kinsey to leave, she tried to "spray Eddie with mase [sic]" at which point he ran inside and told juror 7 to call the police. (*Ibid.*) Ms. Kinsey then kicked in juror 7's front door and ran back to her car and left. As a result of this incident, juror 7 and her family were evicted from the property and they had to move to East Palo Alto. (*Ibid.*) Ms. Kinsey discovered juror 7's new address and, on November 21, followed juror 7 while she was driving home from work.

Juror 7 asked Ms. Kinsey to stop harassing her and she replied that she "would handle it on the streets." (*Ibid.*) As a result of Ms. Kinsey's actions, juror 7, who was five months pregnant at the time, had early contractions and feared having her baby early. She did not want Ms. Kinsey anywhere near the baby after it was born, as she thought Ms. Kinsey would try to hurt the baby "with all the hate and anger" she had for juror 7. (*Ibid.*)

On December 13, 2000, Judge Rosemary Pfeiffer presided over a San Mateo County Superior Court hearing on the petition juror 7 filed against Ms. Kinsey. (Ex. 45 at p. HCP-000914.) Juror 7 and Ms. Kinsey, both appearing pro per, were sworn and testified. As a result of the hearing, the court granted juror 7's petition and ordered Ms. Kinsey to stay 100 yards away from juror 7 and have no contact by phone or mail. (*Ibid.*) The protected persons were listed as juror 7 and her unborn child. (Ex. 45 at p. HCP-000912.) The order expired at midnight on December 13, 2003. (*Ibid.*)

As a result of the September 23, 2000, incident, the Santa Clara County District Attorney filed a complaint charging Ms. Kinsey with two counts of misdemeanor vandalism in violation of Penal Code section 594 subdivisions (a)/(b)(2)(A). (Return, Ex. 2 at p. 2020_00066.) The first count alleged that she maliciously destroyed car tires and the second count alleged that she damaged and destroyed a front door. (*Ibid.*) Ms. Kinsey was convicted and served one week in the Elmwood facility at Santa Clara County jail.⁸ (Ex. 45 at p. HCP-000916.)

D. The Eddie Whiteside Incident

As noted in the Denial, when respondent filed its Return, it attached documents showing that the September 23, 2000 incident with Marcella Kinsey was not the only time juror 7 had both witnessed and been the victim of a crime. Respondent's Return

It appears that at some point in 2001 juror 7 may have also filed a civil lawsuit against Ms. Kinsey in order to recover costs from Ms. Kinsey's vandalism, including juror 7's eviction from her home. (See Ex. 45 at p. HCP-000917 [Ms. Kinsey's December 9, 2001 letter to Judge Pfeiffer stating that juror 7 "blames me for being evicted from her home and is seeking relief from the courts."]; see also Ex. 45 at p. HCP-000920 [a list of monetary losses, including "tires for car" and "lost security deposit."])

shows that juror 7 was also the victim of a November 2, 2001 domestic violence matter involving her then-boyfriend, Mr. Whiteside. (Return, Ex. 2 at p. 2020_00015.) On that evening the East Palo Alto police department arrested Mr. Whiteside and on December 7, 2001, the San Mateo County District Attorney filed a complaint charging him with five misdemeanor counts: infliction of corporal injury on a spouse or cohabitant in violation of Penal Code section 273.5 subdivision (a); battery of a former spouse, boy/girlfriend, non-cohabitant in violation of Penal Code section 243 subdivision (e); false imprisonment in violation of Penal code section 236; cruelty to a child by endangering health in violation of Penal Code section 273A subdivision (b); and misdemeanor battery in violation of Penal Code section 242.

On December 11, 2001, at his initial appearance, Mr. Whiteside pled not guilty to all counts of the complaint and the court appointed an attorney to represent him. (Return, Ex. 2 at p. 2020_00027-00028.) On January 2, 2002, Mr. Whiteside pled no contest to the battery charge and the court dismissed the remaining charges pursuant to a negotiated plea agreement.⁹ (Return, Ex. 2 at p. 2020_00025.) The court sentenced Mr. Whiteside to serve 10 days in county jail (with credit for 2 days served), placed him on supervised probation for 18 months and court probation for 18 months, and ordered him to attend 104 hours of domestic violence counseling and pay various fines and fees. (Return, Ex. 2 at p. 2020_00032-00034.) The court also ordered Mr. Whiteside not to annoy, harass or contact "Richelle Niq and Baby Doe." (Return, Ex. 2 at p. 2020_00035-00037.) On March 19, 2003, the court converted Mr. Whiteside's supervised probation into court probation and on October 11, 2005, Mr. Whiteside made his last payment to the domestic violence fund. (Return, Ex. 2 at p. 2020_00044-00045.)

On June 27, 2002, juror 7 gave birth to a child. (Den. Ex. 1 at p. 3.) This child was born 237 days after the November 2, 2001 incidents of domestic violence were

⁹ It appears from court records that the battery count was added after the District Attorney filed the initial complaint. (Return, Ex. 2 at p. 2020 00031.)

perpetrated against juror 7 and "Baby Doe," making it highly probable that juror 7 was pregnant at the time that Eddie Whiteside battered her, as she had been, with another child, when Ms. Kinsey kicked down her front door, causing her to fear for the life of that unborn child.¹⁰

E. The Second Marcella Kinsey Incident

In addition to the initial Marcella Kinsey incident (September of 2001) and the Eddie Whiteside incident (November of 2001), there was yet another incident in which Kinsey committed a crime in juror 7's presence: as noted above, on December 13, 2000, San Mateo Superior Court Judge Pfeiffer ordered Ms. Kinsey to stay at least 100 yards away from juror 7 and her child. But on July 21, 2001, Ms. Kinsey was accused of violating this order – willful disobedience of a court order in violation of Penal Code section 166 subdivision (a)(4). (Return, Ex. 2 at p. 2020_00017.) Respondent's own paperwork states that "[juror 7] was likely the listed victim out of the 7-21-2001 incident." (Return, Ex. 2 at p. 2020_00017.)

F. Juror 7's Post-Verdict Letters to Mr. Peterson

Shortly after the verdict, juror 7 initiated a correspondence with Mr. Peterson, sending him over 25 letters over a period of two years. In the letters, juror 7 is particularly focused on Conner Peterson and her belief that Mr. Peterson harmed his own son, and comparing that scenario with what she described as the intensity of her own experience as a parent. For example, in the first letter, juror 7 stated: "What happened that night, Scott? What pushed you so far to the limit, where you felt that you needed to kill someone who not only loved you so much, but someone who was carring [sic] a part of you inside of her?" (Ex. 47 at p. HCP-000958.) She continued:

My heart aches for your son. Why couldn't he have the same chances in life as you were given? You should have been dreaming of your son being the best at whatever he did in life, not planning a way to get rid of him!

¹⁰ See National Institutes of Health, *About Pregnancy* (https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/pregnancy/conditioninfo) (last updated June 18, 2021 [pregnancy usually lasts about forty weeks (280 days)].)

witness their child's first steps; the sound of their laugh, the excitement in their eyes when their Mommy/Daddy walk in from being at work all day, the pain you feel in your heart when your child is hurt, whether physically or emotionally, etc May not sound like much to you as you sit in there standing by your selfish lies But as a parent myself, these feelings are much more intense than the feelings you get for any man/woman you might ever meet in life and fall in love or lust with. Those feelings can't even match the passion and unconditional love a parent feels for their child.

To be able to experience the feeling inside when a father or mother

(Ex. 47 at p. HCP-000959-60) (emphasis added).

In a December 17, 2005 letter juror 7 wrote "I hope Laci & Conner will be able to hold each other on the 23rd. I still hope and pray you can one day make peace with yourself." (Ex. 46 at p. HCP-000967.) Later in the same letter, she wrote "I just pray god has givin [sic] laci [sic] arms to hold her presous [sic] lil baby." (Ex. 47 at p. HCP-000968.) In a January 11, 2006 letter, after describing a shooting incident involving one of her sons, she wrote "Damit [sic] Scott that was your son! Your frist [sic] born. If you never wanted children you should have married someone with the same wants as you!" (Ex. 47 at p. HCP-000971.) Then she added, "[t]he fear that runs over a parent when they can't help [their child] is the worst fear ever. You just remember that." (Ex. 47 at p. HCP-000972.) (emphasis added).

In a March 17, 2006 letter, after describing her financial struggles and how it affected her children, she wrote "Conner would have never had to go through this. He would have had a wonderful life." (Ex. 47 at p. HCP-000975.) In a May 30, 2006 letter she described, in detail, visualizing Conner: "You know what Scott, I see your son. I can visualize him with dark hair, dark skin, beautiful little boy. I see Laci's big beautiful smile shining down on him, there should be you somewhere in there Scott." (Ex. 47 at p. HCP-000977-978.) Juror 7 stated in another letter that she thought of Laci and Conner "daily." (Ex. 47 at p. HCP-000976.)

III. ARGUMENT

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In light of juror 7's history as both a witness to and victim of multiple crimes and her role as the testifying plaintiff in the lawsuit against Ms. Kinsey – and as explained in the Denial – juror 7's answers to questions 54 (asking if she had ever been party to a lawsuit), 72 (asking if she had ever participated in a trial as a participant, witness, or an interested observer) and 74 (asking if she or any members of her family, or close friends, have ever been a victim or witness to any crime) of the questionnaires were false. Juror 7 witnessed Ms. Kinsey slash Mr. Whiteside's tires. She both witnessed and was the victim when Ms. Kinsey kicked down her front door. This was not a minor and easily forgettable incident. Indeed, the declaration of her fellow juror belies any suggestions that juror 7 simply forgot about such an incident: "[Juror 7] told me that she got pregnant by a guy who had a girlfriend, and that during her pregnancy, she and the girlfriend had some problems and the woman threatened her." (Ex. 50 at ¶ 6.) Juror 7 (carrying her unborn child) and her other minor children were evicted from their home as a result of the attack, and juror 7 actively involved law enforcement in the situation, seeking a restraining order and testifying under oath against Ms. Kinsey, because she feared for her safety and the safety of her unborn child. She also likely witnessed Ms. Kinsey illegally violating that restraining order. And, critically, again while pregnant, juror 7 both witnessed and was the victim of Mr. Whiteside's acts of domestic violence.

Yet in response to question 54 juror 7 did not disclose that, while she was four and a half months pregnant, she filed a petition for an injunction prohibiting harassment to prevent Ms. Kinsey from harming her and her unborn child. She did not disclose in response to question 72 that she testified at the hearing held in connection with the injunction to prevent Ms. Kinsey from harming her and her unborn child. She did not disclose in response to question 74 that she was the victim of a crime – both when Ms. Kinsey vandalized her front door and threatened her and her baby and when she was the victim of Eddie Whiteside's abuse. She did not disclose in response to question 74 that

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she was a witness to a crime when she saw Ms. Kinsey slash Mr. Whiteside's tires, or when Ms. Kinsey violated the restraining order and was arrested by police.

Although Mr. Peterson need not prove juror 7 intentionally concealed these facts to establish misconduct, it is apparent from her conduct before, during, and after the trial that during voir dire she failed to disclose numerous incidents that posed threats of harm to her unborn children. This enabled her to sit in judgment of Mr. Peterson for the crime of harming his unborn child. Before trial, juror 7 bent over backwards to be selected for the jury; she was willing to sit on the jury for five months without pay, although she had four minor children to care for, and though it caused her such extreme financial hardship that she had to borrow money from a fellow juror. Indeed, juror 7's conduct during jury selection was so unusual that the judge commented that she "stepp[ed] up and practically volunteer[ed] to serve." (Ex. 46 at p. HCP-000956.) During deliberations, juror 7 passionately argued for Mr. Peterson to be punished as harshly as possible for Conner's death. And after the trial, in the extraordinary correspondence she initiated with Mr. Peterson, juror 7 again demonstrated her intensely emotional response to her belief that Mr. Peterson killed Conner and contrasted it with her own "worst fear" that one of her own children would be hurt. In short, respondent cannot rebut the presumption that there is a substantial likelihood that juror 7 was actually biased toward Mr. Peterson because of her prior experiences, which she failed to disclose to the court and the parties.

A. In Light of the Supreme Court's Order to Show Cause and the Numerous Factual Disputes Between the Parties, an Evidentiary Hearing Is Required

Mr. Peterson filed a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus with the California Supreme Court in November 2015. In his prayer for relief Mr. Peterson specifically requested his sentence be vacated or, if respondent disputed any of the factual allegations, he be given an evidentiary hearing. (Petition at p. 277.) After nearly five years of consideration – and after receiving further briefing from both respondent and Mr.

Peterson – the Supreme Court issued an Order to Show Cause, requiring respondent to show cause "why the relief prayed for should not be granted on the ground that Juror No. 7 committed prejudicial misconduct by not disclosing her prior involvement with other legal proceedings, including but not limited to being the victim of a crime, as alleged in Claim 1." (*In re Peterson*, S230782, Order of October 14, 2020.) Respondent has now filed a Return in which she denies a number of key factual allegations contained in this claim of the Petition.

In its Return, respondent argues that despite the Supreme Court's order and the denials of material fact in its own Return, this Court does not need to hold an evidentiary hearing and can simply discharge the Order to Show Cause. (Return at p. 7.) As discussed below, in light of the actual language used by the Supreme Court in its Order to Show Cause (and binding state law) – as well as the numerous factual allegations which respondent's Return has placed in dispute – the argument is puzzling. An evidentiary hearing is certainly required in this case.

1. The Language of the Supreme Court's October 14, 2020 Order Requires an Evidentiary Hearing

First things first. Under state law, there is no great mystery as to what the Supreme Court's order means. When a habeas petition has been filed, "[i]f the court determines that the petition does not state a prima facie case for relief . . . the court will deny the petition outright, such dispositions being commonly referred to as 'summary denials.'" (*People v. Romero*, *supra*, 8 Cal.4th at p. 737.) The Supreme Court's "issuance of an order to show cause returnable before a lower court is an implicit preliminary determination that the petitioner has made a sufficient prima facie statement of specific facts which, if established, entitle him to habeas corpus relief under existing law." (*In re Hochberg* (1970) 2 Cal.3d 870, 875 n.4.)

Here, in its briefing to the Supreme Court, respondent urged the Court to issue a summary denial. Respondent argued that juror 7 did not falsely answer question 54

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(asking if she had ever been involved in a lawsuit) because she could have believed a lawsuit involved a suit for money or property. (IR at p. 27.) According to respondent, she did not falsely answer question 72 (asking if she had ever participated in a trial as a participant or witness) because the lawsuit against Ms. Kinsey was not a criminal action. (IR at p. 29.) And in respondent's view she did not falsely answer question 74 (asking if she or her family/close friends had been the victim or witness to any crime) because she would not have understood that Ms. Kinsey's harassment and vandalism was a crime. (IR at p. 29.) Respondent asked the Supreme Court to summarily reject Mr. Peterson's claim. (IR at p. 40.) The Supreme Court considered respondent's arguments, rejected them, and issued an Order to Show Cause.

Issuance of the Order to Show Cause reflected the Court's considered view that the Petition and exhibits "established a prima facie case for relief" and that "the petitioner would be entitled to relief if his factual allegations are proved." (*Duvall, supra*, 9 Cal.4th at p. 475.) When a higher court determines that a petitioner would be entitled to relief if he proved his factual allegations at a hearing and issues an Order to Show Cause returnable before a lower court, the lower court may not (1) ignore the higher court's determination and (2) issue a summary denial of the petition without a hearing. (*Rose v. Superior Court* (2000) 81 Cal.App.4th 564, 574.)

Rose is almost identical to this case. There, defendant was convicted of murder and filed a habeas petition in the Court of Appeal. Just as in this case, in his habeas petition he urged the reviewing court to "grant the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus . . . or in the alternative, hold an evidentiary hearing." (Rose, supra, 81 Cal.App.4th at p. 574.) Just as in this case, the appellate court determined that a prima facie case had been established, so it issued an order to show cause returnable before the Superior Court. Just as in this case, the order to show cause required respondent "to show cause before the Superior Court . . . when the matter is placed on calendar, why the relief prayed for in the petition should not be granted." (Ibid.)

After receiving both a return from the respondent and a denial from the petitioner, the lower court in *Rose* did exactly what respondent now asks this Court to do – it summarily denied the petition without holding an evidentiary hearing. Petitioner filed a second habeas petition in the Court of Appeal; the Court of Appeal construed this second habeas petition as a Petition for Writ of Mandate and issued a second order to show cause. This second order to show cause was returnable before the Court of Appeal, not the Superior Court.

Respondent responded in the Court of Appeal, arguing that the Superior Court did nothing wrong because the language of the original order to show cause (issued in connection with the original habeas petition) did not require the Superior Court to hold an evidentiary hearing. (*Rose*, *supra*, 81 Cal.App.4th at p. 574.) The appellate court specifically rejected this argument, noting that (1) petitioner had requested either a grant of relief or, in the alternative, an evidentiary hearing and (2) the order to show cause "explicit[ly]" ordered respondent to show "why the relief prayed for in the petition should not be granted." (*Ibid.*) In rejecting what it termed an "inexplicabl[e]" argument, the appellate court concluded "[r]espondent's choice was clear: either release [petitioner] or hold an evidentiary hearing." (*Ibid.*) The appellate court granted the petition for writ of mandate and ordered a different judge of the Superior Court to hold an evidentiary hearing. (*Rose*, *supra*, 81 Cal.App.4th at pp. 575-576.)

This case is just like *Rose*. Here, too, issuance of the Order to Show Cause reflected the Supreme Court's opinion that the Petition and accompanying exhibits established a prima facie case. Like the petition in *Rose*, the Petition here asked the court to either grant the writ and "vacate the judgment and sentence imposed upon petitioner or, in the alternative, . . . permit discovery . . . and order an evidentiary hearing" (Petition at p. 277.) Like the order to show cause in *Rose*, the order here required respondent to show cause "why the relief prayed for in the petition should not be granted." Like *Rose*, here the "choice [is] clear: either release [petitioner] or hold an

evidentiary hearing." (Rose, supra, 81 Cal.App.4th at p. 574.)

To be sure, one can certainly imagine a scenario where even though a higher court has issued an order to show cause, further pleadings show that no hearing is required. For example, if in this case respondent had conceded in its Return each of the factual allegations Mr. Peterson alleged in support of the jury misconduct claim, there might be no need for a hearing to resolve disputed facts or assess credibility. In that situation, the factual allegations and all credibility assessments would have been conceded in the Return.

But it bears emphasis that this is not such a case. Here, as discussed in the Denial, respondent has elected to deny critical factual allegations in the Petition. By any standard this is *exactly* the type of case in which an evidentiary hearing should be held.¹¹

2. Because Respondent Disputes Key Facts in Connection with the Juror Misconduct Claim, and Relies Almost Entirely on Juror 7's "Good Faith," an Evidentiary Hearing Is Required

Mr. Peterson has described his misconduct claim in the Denial. Suffice it to say here that he has alleged (1) juror 7 provided false answers to questions 54, 72, and 74 in the jury questionnaire and (2) respondent cannot rebut the presumption, arising from these false answers, that juror 7 was biased against Mr. Peterson, in violation of his constitutional right to an impartial jury. In Mr. Peterson's Denial, he has identified the

This is especially true here. In its Return, respondent makes the identical three arguments it made in the Informal Response: (1) as to question 54, juror 7 believed a lawsuit had to involve money or property, (2) as to question 72, the lawsuit against Ms. Kinsey was not a criminal action, and (3) as to question 74, juror 7 did not believe the harassment was a crime. (Compare IR at pp. 27-29 with Return, Ex. 1, at ¶¶ 10, 22, 23-24.) The Supreme Court considered these arguments, rejected respondent's request for summary denial, and issued an Order to Show Cause. Respondent raises these identical arguments in its Return, now "supported" by a declaration by juror 7 parroting language nearly identical to that crafted by respondent in its Informal Response. Whether the statements in this declaration, made under these circumstances, are credible is a material issue of disputed fact requiring an evidentiary hearing at which juror 7 can testify and her credibility can be assessed by the Court.

material factual allegations which respondent has disputed.

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This Court will be tasked with resolving these disputed material facts at an evidentiary hearing. The most basic of these disputes is whether juror 7 answered questions 54a, 54b, 72, and 74 falsely on her juror questionnaire. As discussed above, these questions asked whether juror 7 had been party to a lawsuit (54a), and if so whether she was the plaintiff, defendant or both (54b), whether juror 7 had ever participated in a trial as a witness, party, or interested observer (72), and whether juror 7 or any member of her family or close friends had been a victim of or a witness to a crime (74). Respondent argues that juror 7, who answered "no" to all of the above questions, "did not answer the question incorrectly in her mind" as to question 54a, answered question 72 truthfully because, by legal definitions, she had not participated in a trial as a party or a witness, and argues that she did not consider herself a victim of, or witness to, a crime as asked in question 74. (Return at pp. 22-23.) All of respondent's arguments rely on juror 7's good faith answers to the jury questionnaire, a question which in turn depends on her credibility - whether she forgot about the incidents with Marcella Kinsey and Eddie Whiteside or whether she concealed them because she wanted to sit in judgment of Mr. Peterson and she believed that revealing them would prevent her from being selected to serve on the jury. (In re Manriquez (2018) 5 Cal.5th 785, 805 [noting that intentional nondisclosure is strong proof that can sustain the presumption of prejudice raised by juror concealment].) An evidentiary hearing is the proper vehicle to assess juror 7's credibility. (In re Hardy (2007) 41 Cal.4th 977, 993 ["The central reason for referring a habeas corpus claim for an evidentiary hearing is to obtain credibility determinations."]; see also Williams v. Taylor (2000) 529 U.S. 420, 441-442 [noting that even if juror's technical or literal interpretation of a question at voir dire was correct, her silence could suggest an unwillingness to be forthcoming and thus whether she was impartial needs to be determined at an evidentiary hearing.].)

In the same vein, respondent denies that juror 7 wanted to be on Mr. Peterson's

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jury despite a financial hardship as Mr. Peterson alleged in paragraph 19 of the habeas corpus petition. (Return at p. 29.) Juror 7 reported on her jury questionnaire that she had four minor children and worked as a bank teller for Stanford Federal Credit Union. (Ex. 44 at pp. HCP-000885, 000887.) Though she acknowledged that the Credit Union paid for only two weeks of jury service, she stated that she was willing to sit as a juror for up to five months without pay. (Ex. 46 at p. HCP-000924.) In her declaration, juror 7 does not address her financial situation during the jury selection process, indicating only that the trial judge excused her after she stated that she would be paid for two weeks of jury service and that Mr. Peterson's attorney intervened to keep her in the jury pool. (Return, Ex. 1 at ¶¶ 14-15). Respondent argues that juror 7 did not face financial hardship because she indicated during voir dire that her significant other could "carry the load." (Return at p. 29.)

As with the argument above, respondent's theory depends on juror 7's credibility – whether she and her significant other had a conversation in which he offered to "carry the load," the parameters of their agreement, and if it would have been a financial hardship for her and her family with four minor children to forgo a paycheck for 5 months¹² – are all disputes of material fact that must be resolved at an evidentiary hearing.

Respondent further denies, as Mr. Peterson alleged in paragraphs 22 and 23, that juror 7 was biased and wanted to sit on Mr. Peterson's jury to punish him for what she believed he had done to his unborn child.¹³ (Return at p. 30.) As alleged in paragraph

On March 26, 2004, 17 days after she filled out her jury questionnaire juror 7 signed a document entitled "Income and Expense Declaration" indicating that her salary at the credit union was \$14.21 an hour and she worked 40 hours per week and received approximately \$400 per month in spousal support from a different marriage. (Den. Ex. 2 at p. 5.) Her net pay for two weeks was approximately \$942. (*Ibid.*) Her monthly expenses were approximately \$3800 and her only listed asset was \$160 in checking and savings accounts. (*Id.* at p. 6.)

¹³ In response to the allegation in paragraph 23 of the petition that juror 7 was actually biased, respondent points to juror 7's declaration averring that she does not have

13, juror 7, while four and a half months pregnant, filed a temporary restraining order against Ms. Kinsey, swearing under oath that because of Ms. Kinsey's actions she (juror 7) "started having early contractions" and "fears for her unborn child" because Ms. Kinsey "would try to hurt the baby, with all the hate and anger she has for [juror 7]." (Petition at pp. 99-100.) In her declaration, juror 7 now says that Ms. Kinsey's actions in threatening the baby, slashing her ex-boyfriend's tires, and kicking down her door were "minor indignit[ies]" and "undignified means of communicating frustrations" that did not cause her to feel victimized. (Return, Ex. 1 at ¶ 24.)

Without explanation, respondent argues that the death of a pregnant woman and her unborn child (charged here) and pregnant juror 7's fear for her unborn child from Ms. Kinsey's threats of criminal violence are not "remotely similar." (Return at p. 30.) Respondent suggests that the jury deliberations prove that juror 7 was not biased because of her experience with Ms. Kinsey. (Return at pp. 30-31.) Relatedly, respondent denies that juror 7, by concealing the threat of losing her unborn child to violence, concealed a material fact. (Return at pp. 35-36.)

Respondent's argument that the deliberations prove that juror 7 was not biased is belied by the declarations of her fellow jurors, the book she co-wrote with her fellow jurors, and her letters to Mr. Peterson following the verdict. For example, a fellow juror noted that juror 7 used the nickname "Little Man" for Conner and when she entered the deliberations for the first time she "came in talking a big game about how we should 'get Scott for what he did to Laci and Little Man." (Ex. 51 at ¶ 8.) In the book juror 7 co-wrote after the trial, she noted that she was one of two jurors holding out for a first-degree murder verdict on Conner's death: "How can you not kill the baby' [juror 7] said pointing to her stomach." (Ex. 8 at p. HCP-000238.) Her letters, discussed above,

and has never had any bias against Mr. Peterson. (Return at p. 30.) However, a juror's own assessment of her bias is not admissible to prove that she was not biased. (*Manriquez*, supra, 5 Cal.5th at p. 800.)

Once again, a familiar theme emerges from respondent – the essence of juror 7's

1 2 impartiality depends on whether she purposefully concealed her experience with Ms. 3 Kinsey when she filled out the jury questionnaire or simply forgot the "minor indignity" 4 with the passage of time (approximately 2 and a half years). Whether juror 7 acted in 5 good faith in answering questions 54, 72 and 74 is a question of her credibility, which is a 6 question of fact. (See, e.g. In re Boyette (2013) 56 Cal.4th 866, 871-873 [referring 7 habeas corpus petition to referee to determine whether juror intentionally concealed 8 criminal history during voir dire].) Just as in the pre-trial voir dire context where a trial 9 court assesses a juror's state of mind based on her demeanor and credibility (Wainwright 10 v. Witt (1985) 469 U.S. 412, 428), this Court must assess juror 7's state of mind when she 11 provided answers to the jury questionnaire. (See Smith v. Phillips (1982) 455 U.S. 209, 12 215 ["[T]he remedy for allegations of juror partiality is a hearing in which the defendant 13

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has the opportunity to prove actual bias."].) These are just some of the material factual issues which respondent's Return has placed in dispute. Respondent's suggestion that no hearing is required to resolve these disputes must be rejected.

B. Evidentiary Issues in Connection With the Jury Misconduct Claim

As discussed above because there are numerous material disputed facts, an evidentiary hearing is required. Accordingly, full briefing on the legal and factual issues in this case is certainly premature.

But among numerous arguments presented in respondent's Return in connection with the jury misconduct claim, there are several that merit a response here because they may impact the scope of the evidentiary hearing. Mr. Peterson will address each of them briefly.

Juror 7's Post-Trial Conduct Is Relevant to Pre-Trial Prejudice

In his Petition Mr. Peterson noted a number of actions juror 7 took after jury selection - some during deliberations and some after the verdict - which are

circumstantial evidence of her state of mind. Without citation to any legal authority, respondent urges this Court to blind itself to juror 7's conduct, arguing that actions after jury selection are "irrelevant to the questions before this court" and "irrelevant as to whether [she] was biased before trial." (Return at pp. 29, 32.) To the contrary, juror 7's post jury-selection actions provide context and support for her pre-trial bias.

In *Dyer v. Calderon* (9th Cir. 1998) 151 F.3d 970, the Ninth Circuit recognized that post-trial actions by a juror may be relevant to the question of a juror's bias. In that capital case, a juror lied to the trial court about her brother's murder. (*Dyer, supra*, 151 F.3d at p. 975.) After trial, the juror became an officer with the California Department of Corrections and served as a guard on death row at San Quentin where Dyer was housed. Later, she became a parole officer and twice photocopied Dyer's central file to check on the status of his appeal. (*Dyer, supra*, 151 F.3d at p. 982 fn. 18.) Contrary to the position respondent urges here, the court did not simply disregard these post-trial facts; instead, the court noted that "[w]hile it is hard to know what to make of these facts – they are too few in number to prove that [the juror] was on a vendetta or had a particular interest in seeing Alfred Dyer executed – they certainly are not consistent with the picture of a model indifferent juror." (*Ibid.*)

More similar to the instant case is *United States v. Parse* (2d Cir. 2015) 789 F.3d 83, where the Second Circuit considered a juror's post-trial letter in determining that the juror harbored pre-trial prejudice against the defendant. Parse and his co-defendants were convicted of several federal crimes. (*Parse*, *supra*, 789 F.3d at p. 86.) The day after the verdict, one of the jurors wrote a letter to the Assistant U.S. Attorney who led the prosecution. (*Id.* at p. 90.) The letter stated in relevant part, "I thought that you . . . did an outstanding job on behalf of Our Government Kudos to you and your team!" The letter also described how the juror had held out on her own for two days in favor of convicting on a conspiracy charge. Subsequent defense investigation of the juror and additional testimony at a post-trial evidentiary hearing revealed that she had lied in

Evidence Code section 1150, subdivision (a) states that:

(a) Upon an inquiry as to the validity of a verdict, any otherwise admissible evidence may be received as to statements made, or conduct, conditions, or events occurring, either within or without the jury room, of such a character as is likely to have influenced the verdict improperly. No evidence is admissible to show the effect of such statement, conduct, condition, or event upon a juror either in influencing him to assent to or dissent from the verdict or concerning the mental processes by which it was determined.

order to gain a place on the jury. (*Id.* at 91-93.) The district court found that the letter, combined with her lies, demonstrated actual bias, but refused to overturn Parse's conviction because it found that he waived the claim. (*Id.* at pp. 93, 101.) The Second Circuit agreed with the finding of actual bias, concurring with the district court that the juror's bias "bled through" her "remarkable" post-trial letter. (*Id.* at p. 120 (internal quotation marks omitted).)

Parse and Dyer are instructive; nothing in law, logic, or common sense supports respondent's position that courts should simply ignore a juror's post-jury selection behavior when assessing whether misconduct has occurred. After all, biased jurors do not suddenly lose their bias once they hear evidence, begin deliberations or once the trial ends. That a juror may successfully conceal evidence of misconduct until after a verdict should not result in a windfall to respondent, and insulate the case from a claim of misconduct.

2. Juror 7's Statements During Deliberations Are Not Barred Under Evidence Code Section 1150, Subdivision (a)

Respondent argues that juror 7's statements during deliberations discussing whether Laci Peterson's unborn child was a fetus or a living child are inadmissible under Evidence Code section 1150, subdivision (a) "to show the effect of statements or events on the mental processes of a juror when inquiring into the validity of a verdict." (Return at p. 31.) The legal relevance of this observation is difficult to discern. Juror 7's statements have not been offered "to show the effect of statements or events on the

mental processes of [juror 7]" As the California Supreme Court has recognized, section 1150, subdivision (a), "expressly permits, in the context of an inquiry into the validity of the verdict, the introduction of evidence of 'statements made . . . within . . . the jury room." (*People v. Cleveland* (2001) 25 Cal.4th 466, 484.) In other words, when a juror's statements are themselves evidence of misconduct, those statements are admissible. (*Ibid.*) That is precisely the case here.

Along those lines, California courts have recognized that accepting respondent's contrary interpretation of section 1150, subdivision (a) – that juror statements during deliberations demonstrating pre-existing bias must be excluded as bearing on a juror's mental process – would make it nearly impossible for a party to prove juror bias. Therefore, "the rule against proof of juror mental processes is subject to the well-established exception for claims that a juror's preexisting bias was concealed on voir dire." (*Manriquez*, *supra*, 5 Cal.5th at p. 800 [quoting *In re Hamilton* (1999) 20 Cal.4th 273, 298-299 fn. 19].)¹⁵

Here, Mr. Peterson alleges that juror 7's statements during deliberations, combined with her false answers on her questionnaire, are evidence of her pre-trial bias against Mr. Peterson that she concealed during jury selection and voir dire. Because the statements in paragraph 24 of the Petition relate to juror 7's concealment of bias on voir dire, they are not barred by Evidence Code section 1150, subdivision (a).

In addition, respondent raises several Evidence Code section 1150, subdivision (a) objections to juror affidavits attesting to juror 7's statements during deliberations. (Return at pp. 70-79.) There is a certain irony to respondent's position. In Exhibit 1 of its Return respondent attached a declaration from juror 7. In paragraphs 32 and 33 juror 7 talks about what "crossed [her] mind" during trial, what thoughts "played a[] role in my evaluation of the evidence" and when she began to reach conclusions.

The court need not linger over the inconsistency. While this is not the time to litigate the propriety of respondent's objections, suffice it to say that California law entitles petitioners to use juror affidavits to prove that jurors have concealed bias or prejudice on voir dire. (*People v. Hord* (1993) 15 Cal.App.4th 711, 724.) This rule also provides further support for the common-sense conclusion that post-voir dire conduct and statements may reveal pre-voir dire bias.

IV. **CONCLUSION**

In November 2000, when juror 7 was 4 and ½ months pregnant, she swore under oath that "acts of violence" were committed against her which caused her to "fear for her unborn child." She brought a lawsuit and testified so she could obtain a restraining order. In November 2001, when juror 7 was pregnant with a different child, acts of domestic violence – including battery and cruelty to a child – were committed against both her and her young child by her boyfriend who later pled no contest to criminal charges.

Yet when called for jury duty in the Peterson case – a case involving allegations that Mr. Peterson harmed his wife and unborn child – juror 7 denied ever having been the victim of a crime, she denied ever witnessing a crime, she denied ever testifying and she denied ever participating in a lawsuit. Every one of these answers was false, yet Juror 7 was seated. Mr. Peterson was entitled to a jury of 12 unbiased jurors. He did not get it.

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Dated: June 25, 2021

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Respectfully submitted,

/S/

Cliff Gardner

and

HABEAS CORPUS RESOURCE CENTER

By: /S/

Shelley J. Sandusky

By: /S/

Andras Farkas

Attorneys for Petitioner

Scott Lee Peterson

In re Scott Lee Peterson Index of Exhibits in Support of Denial to Return to Order to Show Cause Volume I

VOLUME 1

Exhibit Description

- 1. Birth Certificate of Juror 7's Child
- 2. Income and Expense Declaration of Juror 7, County of San Mateo vs. William Cullen Robinson, Case No. 72904, Signed March 25, 2004 (Filed May 10, 2004)

Exhibit 1

Birth Certificate of Juror 7's Child

STAVED DE CAMPORDIRADA

CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

COUNTY of SANTA CLARA

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

INFORMATIONAL USE ONLY NOT A VALID DOCUMENT TO ESTABLISH IDENTITY

CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH 1200243015369 STATE OF CALIFORNIA LOCAL REGISTRATION DISTRICT AND CERTIFICATE NUMBER STATE FILE NUMBER C LAST (FAMILY) IA NAME OF CHILD - FIRST (GIVEN) Juror 7's child's name redacted 4B HOUR - (24 HOUR CLOCK TIME) OF BIRTH - MM/DD/CCYY 3A THIS BIRTH SINGLE TWIN ETC CHILD 2 SEX 06/27/2002 0754 Single Male 58 STREET ADDRESS - STREET NUMBER OR LOCATION 5A PLACE OF BIRTH - NAME OF HOSPITAL OR FACILITY 725 Welch Road Lucile Packard Children's Hospital PLACE SE PLANNED PLACE OF BIRTH 5D COUNTY BIRTH Hospital Santa Clara Palo Alto STATE OF BIRTH 6C LAST (FAMILY) 8 DATE OF BIRTH 68 MIDDLE 6A NAME OF FATHER - FIRST (GIVEN) FATHER OF 11 DATE OF BIRTH 10 STATE OF BIRTH MOTHER 9A NAME OF MOTHER - FIRST (GIVEN) 02/20/1970 CA Juror 7's name redacted CHILD I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE REVIEWED THE STATED TO PARENT OR OTHER INFORMANT — SIGNATURE INFORMATION AND THAT IT IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE 12C DATE SIGNED 128 RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD INFORMANT Mother 07/01/2002 CERTIFICATION I CERTIFY THAT THE CHILD WAS BORN ALIVE AT 13A ATTENDANT OR CERTIFIER THE DATE HOUR AND PLACE STATED 138 LICENSE NUMBER 13C DATE SIGNED 07/01/2002 G076084 CERTIFICATION 4. TYPED NAME AND TITLE OF CERTIFIER IF OTHER THAN ATTENDANT 13D TYPED NAME TITLE AND MAILING ADDRESS OF ATTENDANT BIRTH Christie Coleman, M.D., 795 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, CA 94301 C. Aldana, Birth Clerk GR 17 DATE ACCEPTED FOR REGISTRATION 16 LOCAL REGISTRAR - SIGNATURE 15A DATE OF DEATH 158 STATE FILE NO LOCAL 07/10/2002



CERTIFIED COPY OF VITAL RECORDS STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

This is a true and exact reproduction of the document officially registered and placed on file in the Office of the Santa Clara County Clerk-Recorder.

HEGINA ALCOMENDRAS, COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

This copy is not valid unless prepared on an engraved border, displaying the date, seal and signature of the County Clerk.

ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

Exhibit 2

Income and Expense Declaration of Juror 7, County of San Mateo vs. William Cullen Robinson, Case No. 72904, Signed March 25, 2004 (Filed May 10, 2004)

Construction of the constr		
ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY (Name and a TRINIDAD MADRIGAL CSB #97700 LEAD CHILD SUPPORT ATTORNEY	(650) 366-8221	FOR COURT USE ONLY
SAN MATEO COUNTY DCSS		
555 COUNTY CENTER		
2ND FLOOR RED	WOOD CITY, CA 94063-1665	
ATTORNEY FOR (Name):		FILED
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, CO STREET ADDRESS: 400 COUNTY CENTER	OUNTY OF SAN MATEO	SAN MATEO COUNTY
MAILING ADDRESS: 400 COUNTY CENTER		MAY 7) 0 2004
CITY AND ZIP CODE: REDWOOD CITY, CA 940	63-1655	
BRANCH NAME: SUPERIOR COURT COUNT	TY OF SAN MATEO	Clerk of the Superior Court
PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF: THE COUNTY	OF SAN MATEO	By MILL Smull
RESPONDENT/DEFENDANT: WILLIAM CULL	EN ROBINSON	DEPUTYCLERK
OTHER PARENT/CLAIMANT: Juror 7's	s name redacted	.
INCOME AND EXPE	NSE DECLARATION	CASE NUMBER: 72904
1. Employment	<u> </u>	
Fill out the information below on your co	ırrent job _k or if you're unşmployed, your most r	ecent job.
a. Employer name: S1	conford federal Credit Unio	Bu.
Attach 1 b. Employer's address:		
copy of pay c. Employer's phone nu	mber:	
stubs for d. Your Occupation: By	ink Teller"	
months here e. Date job started: 4	120/03	
(cross out f. If unemployed, date)	ob ended:	
social g. I work about 40 I	nours per week.	_
security h. I get paid \$ 14		per week per hour
numbers)	ist what you got paid on your last job.	
If you have more that	n one job, attach an 8 1/2 by 11 sheet of pape rite "Item 1- Other Job" at the top.	er and list the same information as above for
2. Age and Education	·	
a. My age is (specify): 33		
b. I have completed high school or equ	ivalent yes no If no, hi	ghest grade completed
c. Number of years of college complete	ed (specify): degree obtained ((specify):
d. Number of years of graduate school	completed (specify): degree	(s) obtained (specify):
e. I have the following profes	sional/occupational licenses (specify):	
vocati	onal training (specify):	
3. Tax information		
a. I last filed taxes in O3/04 (/ear).	
b. My tax filing status is:		
single head of ho	usehold married filing separately.	
married filing jointly with (spec		
	California Other (specify):	
	mptions (including myself) on my taxes (specify	di 2
4. Other party's income	inplions (including myself) on my taxes (specify	"· S
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	fore taxes) of the other party in this case is: \$	7
This estimate is based on (explain):		•
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	uestions on this form, attach an 8½-by-11 she	et of paper, and write the question number
before your answer. Number of pages a		ion contained on all pages of this forms
any attachments is true and correct.	aws of the State of California that the informati	—/ / / this form and
•	Date:	3/26/04
Juror 7's name redacted) ~ ' ' '
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)		SIGNATURE OF DECLARANT)
		Page 1 of 4

Form Adopted for Mandatory Use Judicial Council of California FL-150 (Rev. January 1, 2004)

INCOME AND EXPENSE DECLARATION

Family Code, §§ 2030-2032, 2100-2113, 3552, 3620-3634, 4050-4076, 4300-4339

www.courtinfo.ca.gov

SLP400506

PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF: THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO	CASE NUMBER:
RESPONDENT/DEFENDANT: WILLIAM CULLEN ROBINSON	72904
OTHER PARENT/CLAIMANT: Juror 7's name redacted	72904

Attach copies of your pay stubs for the last two months and proof of any other income. Take a copy of your latest

federal tax return to the court hearing. (Cross out your social security number on the pay stub or tax return.) Average monthly (total 5. Income (list all sources that you have received for the last 12 months--for average monthly, divide by 12) last 12 months Last month divide by 12) d. Public assistance (for example, TANF, SSI, GA/GR) currently receiving. e. Spousal support from this marriage from a different marriage..... f. Pension/retirement fund payments..... g. Social security retirement (not SSI)...... h. Disability social security (not SSI) state disability (SDI) private i. Unemployment compensation...... k. Other (military basic allowance for quarters (BAQ), royalty payments, etc.) (specify):..... 6. Investment Income d. Other (specify):..... Attach a schedule showing gross receipts less cash expenses for each piece of property. 7. My Income from Self-Employment after business expenses for each business:...... partner other (specify): I am the _____ owner/sole proprietor ____ Number of years in this business (specify): Name of business (specify): Type of business (specify): Attach a profit and loss statement for the last two years or a schedule C from your last federal tax return. If more than one business, provide the same information as above for all your businesses. 8. Additional Income I received one-time money (lottery winnings, inheritance, etc.) in the last 12 months (specify source and amount): 9. Change in Income My financial situation has changed significantly over the last 12 months because (specify): 10. Deductions f. Necessary job-related expenses not reimbursed by my employer (attach explanation labeled Question 10f). 11. Assets a. Cash and checking accounts saving, credit union, money market, and other deposit accounts saving, credit union, money market, and other deposit accounts savings, credit union, money market, and other deposit accounts savings, credit union, money market, and other deposit accounts savings, credit union, money market, and other deposit accounts savings, credit union, money market, and other deposit accounts savings, credit union, money market, and other deposit accounts savings, credit union, money market, and other deposit accounts savings, credit union, money market, and other deposit accounts savings, credit union, money market, and other deposit accounts savings account savings accounts savings accounts savings accounts savings account savings accounts savings account savings accounts savings accounts savings accounts savings account savings accounts account savings accounts savings accounts savings accounts account savings accounts savings accounts account savings accounts account savings accounts account savings accounts account savings account savings account savings accounts account savings accounts account savings accounts account sa b. Stocks, bonds, and other assets you can easily sell. c. All other property, real or personal (estimate fair market value minus the loans and debts you owe) Page 2 of 4 **INCOME AND EXPENSE DECLARATION** FL-150 (Rev. January 1, 2004) Income

RESPONDENT/DEFENDANT: WILLIAM CU	PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF: THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO ONDENT/DEFENDANT: WILLIAM CULLEN ROBINSON R PARENT/CLAIMANT: Juror 7's name redacted		CASE NUMBER: 72904		
2. The following people live with me:	ame redac <u>ted</u>				
Name at Juror 7's children's c. names redacted d. e.	Age How is the prelated to your related to you		monthly income	Pays some of the household expenses? YES NO YES NO YES NO YES NO YES NO YES NO	
	Estimated expenses	Actual exp		osed needs	
a. My home:	\$ 1000 \$ 1000 \$ 4500 \$ 55000 \$ 10000	i. Clothes j. Education (sp k. Entertainmen l. Auto expense (insurance, ga m. Insurance (life include auto, n. Savings and i o. Charitable cor p. Monthly payn (itemize below q. Other (specify) r. TOTAL EXPER	ecify): t, gifts and vacation as and transportation as, repairs, bus, etc. a, accident, etc.; do home, or health inst netributions nents listed in item v in 16 and insert to y): NSES (a-q) NSES (a-q)	\$ 40°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°°	
4. Installment payments and debts (not li		, A	Palanas	Date of last naumant	
Paid to: For	[i	Amount \$	Balance \$	Date of last payment	
		\$	\$		
		\$	\$		
		\$	\$		
		\$	\$		
a. To date I have paid my attorney for b. The source of this money was (special to the source). I owe to date the following fees and. My attorney's hourly rate is \$ I confirm this information and fee arrangements.	or fees and costs: \$ ecify): nd costs over the amount p engement.	·	J24/	of	
(TYPE OR PRINT NAME OF ATTORI			(SIGNATURE OF AT	TORNEY)	
Fi -150 (Rev. January 1, 2004)				Page 3 of 4	

SLP400508

CASE NUMBER:

72904

Child Support Information
Fill out this page only if your case involves child support.

16.	 Number of children a. I have children under the age of 18 with the other parent. b. The children spend / 60 % of time with me % of time with the other parent. If not sure about percentage, or it's not been agreed upon, please describe your parenting schedule here.
17.	Children's health care expenses a. I do I I do not have health insurance for the children available at work. b. Name of insurance company: c. Address of insurance company:
	d. The monthly cost for children's health insurance is or would be: \$ Do not include the amount your employer pays.
18.	Additional expenses for the children in this case: Amount per month
	a. Child care so I can work or get job training \$
	b. Children's health care not covered by insurance \$
	c. Travel expenses for visitation\$
	d. Children's educational or other special needs (specify) \$
19.	Special hardships: I ask the court to consider these special financial circumstances: (Attach documentation of any item listed here including court orders.). Amount per month For how many months? b. Major losses not covered by insurance (examples: fire, theft, other uninsured loss)
	c. (1) Expenses for my minor children from other relationships who live with me
	Juror 7's children's names redacted
	Child support I receive for those children One Child support I receive for those children on the support I receive for those children One Child support I receive for those children on the support I receive for those children One Child support I receive for those children on the support I receive for the supp
20.	Other information I want the court to know concerning support in my case.

FL-150 [Rev. January 1, 2004]

Period Ending:

03/15/2004

Pay Date: 03/15/2004

Juror 7's name redacted

Taxable Marital Status: Single Exemptions/Allowances:

Federal: 1 State: 1



	Social Sec	e process fro		
Earnings	rate	hours	this period	year to date
Regular	14.2100	78.67	1,117.90	
Vacation	14.2100	8.00	113.68	
Pto				112.00
	Gross Pay		\$1,231.58	5,842.88
Deductions	Statutory			
	Federal Incor	me Tax	-132.47	615.11
	Social Securi	ity Tax	-75.87	359.82
	Medicare Tax	X	-17.74	84.15
	CA State Inc	ome Tax	-29.30	127.59
	CÁ SUI/SDI	Tax	-14.40	68.30
	Other			
	Aflac Posttax		-8.25	
	Aflac Pre		-10.95*	54.75
	Net Pay		\$942.60	

*	Excluded	from	federal	taxable	wages
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Your federal taxable wages this period are \$1,220.63

Information	this period	total to date
G.T.L.	3.11	15.47
Pto Hrs Tkn		8.00
Sick Hrs Tkn		13.00
Vac Hrs Tkn		16.00
Sick		1.71
Vacation		22.71

nc.

DEPT. FILE CO. VIS 002901 810

CLOCK NUMBER

0000000463

STANFORD FEDERAL CREDIT UNION PAYROLL ACCOUNT

Period Ending: Pay Date:

03/15/2004

03/15/2004

Juror 7's name redacted

Earnings Statement

Taxable Marital Status: Single Exemptions/Allowances:

Federal: 1 State:

Earnings	rate	hours	this period	year to date
Regular	14.2100	78.67	1,117.90	
Vacation	14.2100	8.00	113.68	
Pto			- 10	112.00
	Gross Pay		\$1,231.58	5,842.88
Deductions	Statutory			
	Federal Incor	ne Tax	-132.47	615.11
	Social Securi	ty Tax	-75.87	359.82
	Medicare Tax	(-17.74	84.15
	CA State Inc	ome Tax	-29.30	127.59
	CA SUI/SDI	Tax	-14.40	68.30
	Other			
	Aflac Posttax		-8.25	
	Aflac Pre		-10.95*	54.75
	Net Pay		\$942.60	

* Excluded from federal taxable wages

Your federal taxable wages this period are \$1,220.63

this period	total to date
3.11	15.47
	8.00
	13.00
	16.00
	1.71
	22.71

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Pay Date : 12/31/2003 Page

PROOF OF SERVICE

Case Name: In re Scott Lee Peterson

Case No.: SC055500A

- 1. I am over 18 years of age and not a party to this action. I am a resident of or employed in San Francisco, California, the county from which the document was served.
- 2. My electronic service address is: docketing@hcrc.ca.gov. My business address is: Habeas Corpus Resource Center, 303 Second Street, Suite 400 South, San Francisco, California 94107.
- 3. Pursuant to the agreement of the parties, I electronically served on this date the following document on Respondent's counsel at the electronic service address as specified in paragraph 4:

Denial to Return to Order to Show Cause; Exhibits in Support Thereof.

4. The document was served on:

Birgit Fladager
District Attorney
Birgit.Fladager@standa.org
832 12th Street, Suite 300
Modesto, CA 95354
Counsel for Respondent

Dave Harris
Assistant District Attorney
Dave.Harris@standa.org
832 12th Street, Suite 300
Modesto, CA 95354
Counsel for Respondent

Pat Harris
A Professional Corporation
pat@patharrislaw.com
232 North Canon Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date: June 25, 2021		
	Perpetua Hilton	