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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



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SUPREME COURT COPY

May 9, 2012

Frederick K. Ohlrich
Clerk of the Supreme Court of California
Supreme Court of California
350 McAllister Street
San Francisco, California 94102

**SUPREME COURT
FILED**

MAY 11 2012

Frederick K. Ohlrich Clerk

RE: *People v. Richard Valdez (capital case)*
Supreme Court of the State of California, Case No. S062180

Deputy

Dear Mr. Ohlrich:

The Court has requested that counsel advise the Court and opposing counsel of those issues on which counsel expects to focus at oral argument, calendared for May 29, 2012, at 1:30 p.m., in San Francisco. As counsel for respondent, I intend to focus on those issues raised by appellant and the Court at oral argument.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. R. Johnsen", written over a horizontal line.

MICHAEL R. JOHNSEN
Deputy Attorney General

For KAMALA D. HARRIS
Attorney General

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MAY 11 2012

CLERK SUPREME COURT

DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY U.S. MAIL

Case Name: **People v. Richard Valdez**
Case No.: **S062180**

I declare:

I am employed in the Office of the Attorney General, which is the office of a member of the California State Bar, at which member's direction this service is made. I am 18 years of age or older and not a party to this matter. I am familiar with the business practice at the Office of the Attorney General for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service. In accordance with that practice, correspondence placed in the internal mail collection system at the Office of the Attorney General is deposited with the United States Postal Service with postage thereon fully prepaid that same day in the ordinary course of business.

On May 9, 2012, I served the attached

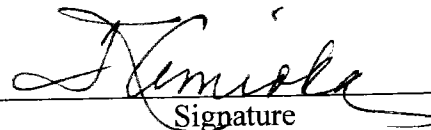
LETTER RE FOCUS AT ORAL ARGUMENT

by placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope in the internal mail collection system at the Office of the Attorney General at 300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702, Los Angeles, CA 90013, addressed as follows:

Gary Garcia
Deputy State Public Defender
Office of the State Public Defender
221 Main Street, 10th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on May 9, 2012, at Los Angeles, California.

K. Amioka
Declarant


Signature