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| 13 | FOR THE COUNTY OF SANTA | BARBARA, COUR DIVISION |
| 15 16 17 18 19 20 | THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, Plaintiffs, Vs. MICHAEL JOSEPH JACKSON, Defendant. | Case No. 1133603 MR. JACKSON'S OPPOSITION TO THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S DISCOVERY MOTION LINDER SEAL Honorable Rodney S. Melville Date: November 5, 2004 Time: 8:30 am Dept: SM 8 |
| 22 23 24 25 | MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES I. | |
| 26 | PENAL CODE SECTION 1054.7 REQUIRES COUNSEL FOR MR. JACKSON TO | |
| 27 | TURN OVER DISCOVERY 30 DAYS PRIOR TO TRIAL | |
| 28 | | |
| | MR. JACKSON'S OPPOSITION TO THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S DISCOVERY MOTION 1 | |

California's reciprocal discovery scheme imposes an obligation upon defense counsel to provide the prosecution with discovery 30 days before trial. "The disclosures required under this chapter shall be made at least 30 days prior to trial, unless good cause is shown why a disclosure should be denied, restricted or deferred." (Penal Code Section 1054.7.) The statutes do not require the defendant to provide this information to the prosecution prior to 30 days before trial.

In Sandeffer v. Superior Court (1993) 18 Cal.App.4th 672, 678-679, cited by the prosecution (Motion for Discovery, page 6), the Court of Appeal actually held that the trial judge lacked the authority to order disclosure of expert witness information before defense counsel had decided whether to call the witness. There is dicta in Sandeffer that a trial court may compel disclosure of witness information by defense counsel more than 30 days before the date set for trial if the defense has decided to call the witness, however, the court acknowledged that "the determination whether to call a witness is peculiarly within the discretion of counsel." (Sandeffer, supra, 18 Cal.App.4th 672, 678.) The court issued the writ of mandate directing the superior court to vacate the order requiring the defendant to turn over expert witness information. (Sandeffer, supra, 18 Cal.App.4th 672, 678.)

The prosecution once again cites the case of People v. Superior Court (Mouchaourab) (2000) 78 Cal.App.4th 403, 426. The Court of Appeal stated that California's reciprocal discovery statute, Penal Code 1054, applies to "all phases of a criminal case" and provides the sole discovery remedies available. Mouchaourab involved five separate cases in which defendants, who had been indicted by grand juries, requested and received orders for disclosure of records and transcripts related to the grand jury proceedings, seeking information that would provide grounds for motions to dismiss the indictments. The court held that discovery of nontestimonial portions of the record of grand jury proceedings was not barred by Penal Code Section 1054(e) because sections 995, 939.7 and 939.6 expressly provided authority for such discovery. (Mouchaourab, supra, (2000) 78 Cal.App.4th 403, 437.) The portion of the

This case was cited by Mr. Auchincloss at the hearing on August 8, 2004 for the opposite proposition of the holding.

Mouchaourab holding that is relevant to the present case is that Penal Code Section 1054 does not require discovery outside of the procedure outlined in that statute (i.e. making disclosures at least 30 days prior to trial) unless discovery is authorized by "other express statutory provisions." Here, the prosecution has not presented "other express statutory authority" authorizing an order that counsel for Mr. Jackson disclose discovery more than 30 days before trial.

As it did when previously cited by the prosecution, Mouchaourab supports the defense opposition to the prosecution's motion.

II.

AT TRIAL AS WITNESSES AND WHAT WILL BE PRESENTED AS EVIDENCE AT TRIAL

Penal Code Section 1054.3 requires defense counsel to provide the prosecution with information regarding the names and addresses of witnesses, relevant information related to those witnesses which the defendant intends to offer in evidence at the trial, and any real evidence the defendant intends to offer at the trial. At present, counsel for Mr. Jackson has not determined who will be called as defense witnesses at trial and what evidence will be offered by the defense at trial. Therefore, defense counsel for Mr. Jackson does not have discovery to provide the District Attorney with at the present time.

The prosecution states that, "[t]o date, the prosecution has provided the defense with 12,425 pages of documents and reports, 193 CD ROMS, 112 audio cassettes, 78 video cassettes and over 200 photographs." (Motion for Discover, page 5.) The prosecution fails to mention, however, that the majority of these materials have been provided to defense counsel during the past two months. Much of this discovery dates back 10 years to the 1993-1994 investigation of Mr. Jackson. Other discovery dates back months to earlier phases of the present investigation. Despite repeated assurances by the District Attorney, in open court, that the defense is being provided with discovery as soon as it is received by the government, the defense continues to receive discovery that dates back months if not years.

Defense counsel has not had an opportunity to adequately evaluate all of this material. Without knowing the details of the thousands of pages of documents and hundreds of photographs, videos and audiotapes that make up the government's investigation, counsel for Mr. Jackson are not yet able to determine who will be called as defense witnesses and what information will be presented as evidence at trial. Furthermore, the District Attorney has stated that they have not finished providing defense counsel with discovery. Until defense counsel has been provided with all discovery we are not in a position to determine who we intend to call at trial.

III.

CONCLUSION

Counsel for Mr. Jackson have complied with and will continue to comply with Penal Code Sections 1054.3 and 1054.7. The District Attorney has not made a showing that justifies the issuance of an order compelling counsel for Mr. Jackson to disclose discovery more than 30 days before trial. (Penal Code Section 1054.7.)

Dated: October 29, 2004

COLLINS, MESEREAU, REDDOCK & YU
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By:

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Attorneys for Defendant

MICHAEL JOSEPH JACKSON

PROOF OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned declare:

I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within action. I am employed in the County of Santa Barbara. My business address is 233 East Carrillo Street, Suite C, Santa Barbara, California, 93101.

On October 29, 2004, I served the foregoing document MR JACKSONS OPPOSITION TO THE DISTRICT ATTORNEYS DISCOVERY MOTION AND REDACTED VERSION on the interested parties in this action by depositing a true copy thereof as follows:

Tom Sneddon
Gerald Franklin
Ron Zonen
Gordon Auchincloss
District Attorney
1105 Santa Barbara Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
568-2398

- BY U.S. MAIL I am readily familiar with the firm's practice for collection of mail and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service. Such correspondence is deposited daily with the United States Postal Service in a sealed envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid and deposited during the ordinary course of business. Service made pursuant to this paragraph, upon motion of a party, shall be presumed invalid if the postal cancellation date or postage meter date on the envelope is more than one day after the date of deposit.
- BY FACSIMILE -I caused the above-referenced document(s) to be transmitted via facsimile to the interested parties at 568-2398.
- X BY HAND I caused the document to be hand delivered to the interested parties at the address above.
- X STATE I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.

Executed October 29, 2004, at Santa Barbara, California

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