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March 25, 2019

Jorge Navarrete, Clerk  
California Supreme Court  
350 McAllister St.  
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Oral Argument Focus Letter in *People v. Julian Mendez*, S129501

Dear Mr. Navarrete:

Please inform the court appellant will concentrate on the following issues at oral argument on April 4:

AOB II. The trial court's decision to admit irrelevant and prejudicial evidence of three gang-related homicides and a purported drive-by shooting was an abuse of discretion and violated appellant's rights under the Fifth, Eighth, and Fourteenth Amendments;

AOB III. The ubiquitous gang hearsay introduced at trial was testimonial hearsay in violation of appellant's Sixth Amendment right to confront the witnesses against him, and was furthermore inherently unreliable and should have been excluded under both state and federal law; and

SUPPLEMENTAL: The erroneous admission of case-specific hearsay related by the prosecution's gang expert prejudiced appellant in both the guilt and penalty phases.

Sincerely,

Randall Bookout

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
 Supreme Court of California

**PROOF OF SERVICE**

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
 Supreme Court of California

Case Name: **PEOPLE v. MENDEZ (JULIAN ALEJANDRO)**

Case Number: **S129501**

Lower Court Case Number:

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Julian Mendez V-59303 Additional Service Recipients	CSP-SQ/2-EY-38 San Quentin, CA 94794	Mail	3/25/2019 8:59:30 AM
Michael Belter (Trial counsel) Additional Service Recipients	168 W. Alisal St. Salinas, CA 94102	Mail	3/25/2019 8:59:30 AM

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

3/25/2019

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Date

/s/Randall Bookout

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Signature

Bookout, Randall (131821)

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Last Name, First Name (PNum)

Randall Bookout Attorney at Law

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Law Firm