

Charles M. Sevilla

1010 Second Avenue, Suite 1825
San Diego, California 92101-4902
619-232-2222-tel
www.charlessevilla.com

EDUCATION

LL.M., George Washington University, Washington D.C., 1971
J.D., University of Santa Clara, Santa Clara, California, 1969
B.A., San Jose State University, San Jose, California, 1966

ADMITTED TO PRACTICE:

California: Supreme Court of California; U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California; U.S. District Court for Southern District of California; U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Washington, D.C.: U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia; U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia; Supreme Court of the United States

EMPLOYMENT:

Law Office of Charles Sevilla, 2004 - present
Partner, Cleary & Sevilla, LLP, 1983 - 2004
Chief Deputy State Public Defender, 1979 to 1983
Chief Assistant State Public Defender, Los Angeles, 1976 to 1979
Federal Defenders, San Diego, California; trial attorney, 1971 to 1972; Chief Trial Attorney, 1972 to 1976
Washington, D.C., private practice, 1971
VISTA Legal Services, Urban Law Institute, Washington, D.C., Staff Attorney, 1969 to 1971

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

"Antisocial Personality Disorder: Justification for the Death Penalty?" 10 *Journal of Contemporary Legal Issues* 247, University of San Diego School of Law (1999).

"Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Search for Truth," 20 *Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy* 519 (Winter 1997).

"April 20, 1992: A Day in the Life," 30 *Loyola Law Review* 95 (November 1996)

"Redefining Federal Habeas Corpus and Constitutional Rights: Procedural Preclusion," 52 *National Lawyer's Guild Practitioner* 33 (1995).

"Thoughts on the Cause of the Present Discontents: The Death Penalty Case of Robert Alton Harris," 40 *U.C.L.A. Law Rev.* 345 (Dec 1992) [co-author with Michael Laurence].

"Investigating and Preparing an Ineffective Assistance of Counsel Claim," 37 *Mercer L.Rev.* 927 (1986).

"Polygraph 1984: Behind the Closed Door of Admissibility," 16 *Univ West Los Angeles L. Rev.* 1 (1984).

"The Exclusionary Rule and Police Perjury," 11 *San Diego Law Review* 839 (August 1974), cited in *People v. Cook* (1978) 22 Cal.3d 67, 86 n. 7, *People v. Tallagua* (1985) 174 Cal.App.3d 145, 151, and *Franks v. Delaware*, 438 U.S. 154, 168 n.7 (1978).

"Between Scylla and Charybdis: The Ethical Perils of a Criminal Defense Attorney," 2 *Journal of Criminal Defense* 237 (Fall 1976).

"In Defense of the Alien," 4 *Chicano Law Review* 1 (1977); also published in more abbreviated form in 1 *Journal of Criminal Defense* 255 (Fall 1975).

"Reliability of Polygraph Examination," 14 *Am Jur Proof of Facts* 1 (1977).

California Criminal Defense Practice, co-editor/consultant, (Matthew Bender 1982 to present).

Disorder in the Court (W.W. Norton, 1992, 1999); *Disorderly Conduct*, co-editor (W.W. Norton, 1987, 1999); books of trial humor.

Wilkes on Trial (Ballantine 1993). *Wilkes: His Life and Crimes* (Ballantine 1990); two novels.

BAR ACTIVITIES:

President of California Attorneys for Criminal Justice (1979 to 1980).
San Diego Criminal Defense Lawyer's Club (President 1988).
San Diego Criminal Defense Bar Association (Board of Directors, presently).
San Diego Defenders Board of Directors (1994-2009)
Member, Ninth Circuit Advisory Committee on Rules of Court & Internal Procedures (1996 to 2002).
Los Angeles County Bar Association, Criminal Justice Executive Committee (1976 to 1978).
San Diego County Bar Association, Federal Court Committee, Chairman (1974 to 1975).

MISCELLANEOUS:

Listed in The Best Lawyers in America: all editions from 1987-2009 (Woodward/White, Inc.); see also San Diego Magazine, August 2001; April 2005, 2008, 2009
California Lawyer, "Top Picks: the lawyers lawyers would hire if they get busted," February 2001.
Member, Committee on Standard Jury Instructions, Criminal (CALJIC) (1976 to 1983).
Member, Governor's Interim Advisory Commission on Camarillo State Hospital (1976 to 1977).
Member, Chief Justice Bird's Committee on Publication Rule (1978).
Board of Governors, California Public Defenders Association (1978 to 1980).
Member, National Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys (to present).
Member Ninth Circuit Advisory Committee on Rules, 1997 to 2002.

CRIMINAL LAW APPELLATE SELECTED PUBLISHED OPINIONS**FEDERAL APPELLATE:**

Argued and briefed dozens of appellate cases before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals including U.S. v. Mincoff, 574 F.3d 1186 (9th Cir. 2009) (raising multiple issues in drug conspiracy including whether a "buy-sell" agreement between the defendant and another can become a conspiracy); U.S. v. Awad, 551 F.3d 930 (9th Cir. 2009) (finding constitutional error in instructions on intent element of 18 U.S.C. 1347 offense, but also harmless); U.S. v. McTiernan, 546 F.3d 1160 (9th Cir. 2008) (reversing the denial of the defendant's motion to withdraw his guilty plea); Medina v. Hornung, 386 F.3d 872 (9th Cir. 2004) (finding federal constitutional error harmless); U.S. v. Ziskin, 360 F.3d 934 (9th Cir. 2003)(interlocutory [pre-trial] appeal on double jeopardy issue affirmed); Chein v. Shumsky, formerly at 323 F.3d. 748 (9th Cir. en banc 2004) (reversing all three counts of perjury for insufficiency of evidence); Sassounian v. Roe (9th Cir. 2000) 230 F.3d 1097 (overturning special circumstance based on jury misconduct); Dubria v. Smith, formerly at 197 F.3d 390, initial opinion reversing conviction itself reversed on rehearing en banc 224 F.3d 995 (9th Cir. 1999) (upholding doctor's murder conviction based upon finding of no constitutional error in playing tape where officer opined about evidence of guilt); United States v. Toothman, 137 F.3d 1393 (9th Cir. 1998)(reversing count to which defendant pleaded guilty as involuntary); United States v. Rutgard, 116 F.3d 1270 (9th Cir. 1997)(reversing multiple counts, forfeiture, restitution and sentence orders after five month Medicare fraud trial); United States v. Consuelo Gonzalez, 521 F.2d 259 (9th Cir. en banc 1975) (probation search condition allowing law enforcement officers to search probationer's home held illegal); United States v. Martinez-Fuerte, 514 F.2d 305 (9th Cir. 1975) (warrant inspection held unconstitutional, but reversed by U.S. Supreme Court, see below); United States v. Pena-Garcia, 505 F.2d 964 (9th Cir. 1974) (roving stop and seizure of automobile by Border Patrol held illegal); United States v. Carpenter, 496 F.2d 855 (9th Cir. 1974) (search and seizure of controlled substance from defendant's body cavity held unconstitutional); United States v. DeBetham (S.D. Cal. 1972) 348 Fed.Supp. 1377, aff'd 470 F.2d 1367 (9th Cir. 1972) (discusses introduction of polygraph evidence in discretion of trial court); United States v. Preciado-Gomez, 529 F.2d 935 (9th Cir. 1976) cert. denied, 425 U.S. 953, 96 S. Ct., 1730, 48 L. Ed. 2d 197. (discussing standards for vindictive prosecution claim); Locks v. Sumner, 703 F.2d 403 (9th Cir. 1983)(discussing due process implications of judge coercing verdict on deadlocked jury.)

This includes a decade of briefing and arguing the capital case of Robert Alton Harris before the Ninth Circuit: 692 F.2d 1189 (1982); 885 F.2d 1354 (1988); 901 F.2d 724 (1990); 913 F.2d 606; 1990 (1990); 928 F.2d 891 (1991); 949 F.2d 1497 (1991).

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT:

Argued and briefed three cases in the Supreme Court of the United States:
Knowles v. Mirzayance, 129 S.Ct. 1411 (2009);
United States v. Martinez-Fuerte, 428 U.S. 453 (1976);
United States v. Ortiz, 442 U.S. 891 (1975).

CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT:

I have briefed and argued the following cases before the state high court:
People v. Ault (2004) 33 Cal.4th 1250 (confirmed defense position that abuse of discretion is the proper standard of review for a State appeal from a granted motion for new trial based on jury misconduct);
In re Hambarian (2002) 27 Cal.4th 826 (holding conflict of interest not established sufficient to warrant recusal of DA prior to preliminary hearing);
People v. Barton (1995) 12 Cal.4th 186 (holding a defendant cannot refuse lessor included offenses if the evidence warrants giving the instructions);
In re Sassounian (1995) 9 Cal.4th 535 (defines what "material evidence" means in context of a jailhouse informant's mendacious testimony in murder trial);
In re Alvernaz (1992) 2 Cal.4th 924 (recognizing post-trial remedy for ineffective assistance of counsel in plea bargaining but denying relief to petitioner; but see Alvernaz v. Ratelle (S.D. Cal. 1993) 831 F.Supp. 790 (granting relief to petitioner on federal habeas corpus);
People v. Hedgecock (1990) 51 Cal.3d 395 (in reversing former Mayor of San Diego's convictions, the Court defined the materiality element of the crime of perjury);
In re Martin (1987) 44 Cal.3d 1 (murder conviction reversed due to prosecution misconduct in suppressing defense evidence);
People v. Skinner (1985) 39 Cal.3d 765 (new insanity test applied to reverse murder conviction);
People v. Robertson (1982) 33 Cal.3d 21 (death penalty reversed for new penalty trial);
People v. Thompson (1980) 27 Cal.3d 303 (death penalty reversed for lack of sufficient evidence to prove special circumstances);
In re Ramon M. (1978) 22 Cal.3d 419 (Court adopted the sanity standard for the retarded -- that of the American Law Institute);
In re Danny T. (1978) 22 Cal.3d 918 (law requires judge to act on a juvenile's petition for rehearing within 20 days or a de novo hearing is granted by operation of law).

CALIFORNIA COURT OF APPEAL:

Quinones v. Superior Court (2008) 166 Cal. App. 4th 1519; 83 Cal. Rptr. 3d 468 (reversing denial of 995 motion where prosecution added new torture charge after a preliminary hearing on an ADW allegation; *depublished*; Chapman v. Superior Court (2005) 130 Cal. App. 4th 261, 266 (estoppel doctrine not applicable where Port attorney advises Port Commissioner on conflict of interest issue);
People v. Basuta (2001) 94 Cal. App. 4th 370 (reversing baby shaking case for failure to permit the defense to present its case);
People v. Dunn-Gonzalez (1996) 47 Cal.App.4th 899 (delay in bringing charges not deemed prejudicial);
People v. Mikhail (1993) 13 Cal.App.4th 846 (murder appeal: court has no right to nullify a no sentencing limitation plea bargain);
People v. Stark (1992) 18 Cal.App.4th 1657 (denial of admission of psychological expert found to be error, but harmless);
People v. Sassounian (1986) 182 Cal.App.3d 361 (murder of Turkish Counsel to USA affirmed by split decision, but see Ninth Circuit reversal of the special circumstance supra);
People v. Rivera (1984) 157 Cal.App.3d 494 (prosecution attempt to appeal reduction of sentence for illegal disparity dismissed);
People v. Blackington (1985) 167 Cal.App.3d 1216 (murder case reversed for prosecutorial misconduct);

People v. Tyner (1978) 76 Cal.App.3d 352 (conviction reversed based on Faretta violation);
People v. Tomas (1977) 74 Cal.App.3d 75 (conviction reversed based on mental incompetency of defendant);
People v. Banks (1976) 67 Cal.App.3d 379 (reversed based on improper self-defense instructions).