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#### I. BRADY VIOLATION OCCURS EVEN IF DEFENSE ATTORNEY DOES NOT EXERCISE DUE DILIGENCE AND DISCOVER EVIDENCE HIMSELF

*Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83, 83 S.Ct. 1194, 10 L.Ed.2d 215 (1963) that the government must provide defendants with material, exculpatory evidence in its possession. The government frequently makes the argument that the defense attorney's failure to exercise due diligence and discover the information himself is a complete defense to its non-compliance with the *Brady* rule.

*United States v. Tavera*, 719 F.3d 705 (6th Cir. 2013) held that the government's suppression of exculpatory information deprives the defendant of a fundamentally fair trial, and the defense attorney's failure to discover the information does not relieve the government of its independent obligation to comply with the *Brady* rule.

#### II. SCOPE OF PRACTICE

My practice encompasses plea negotiations, sentencing consultation, sentencing, preparation of sentencing memoranda, disciplinary problems, parole representation, parole appeals, parole memoranda, 2241 habeas corpus petitions, presidential pardons and commutations, 2254 habeas corpus petitions, and 2255 motions, direct appeals in all Circuits, U.S. Supreme Court practice, treaty transfers, convention transfers, derivative citizenship claims, removal (deportation) proceedings, civil commitments, and other immigration matters. Published cases include, but are not limited to, the following: *Harris v. Martin*, 834 F.2d 361 (3d Cir. 1987), *United States v. Reshenberg*, 893 F.2d 1333 (3d Cir. 1989), *United States v. Calabrese*, 942 F.2d 218 (3d Cir. 1991), *United States v. Cole*, 813 F.2d 43 (3d Cir. 1987), *United States v. Day*, 969 F.2d 39 (3d Cir. 1992), *Farese v. Luther*, 953 F.2d 49 (3d Cir. 1992), *Schiano v. Luther*, 954 F.2d 910 (3d Cir. 1992), *United States v. Mathews*, 11 F.3d 583 (6th Cir. 1993), *United States v. Nanfro*, 64 F.3d 98 (2d Cir. 2005), *United States v. Henson*, 948 F.Supp. 431 (MDPA 1996), *United States v. Miller*, 849 F.2d 896 (4th Cir. 1988), *Phifer v. Warden*, 53 F.3d 859 (7th Cir. 1995), *Prioleau v. United States*, 828 F.Supp. 261 (SDNY 1993), *United States v. Tiller*, 91 F.3d 127 (3d Cir. 1996), *United States v. Eyer*, 113 F.3d 470 (3d Cir. 1997), *United States v. Fields*, 113 F.3d 313 (2d Cir. 1997), *United States vs. DePace*, 120 F.3d 233 (11th Cir. 1997), *United States v. Derrick Williams*, 158 F.3d 736 (3d Cir. 1998), *Paters v. United States*, 159 F.3d 1043 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1998), *United States v. Conhaim*, 160 F.3d 893 (2d Cir. 1998), *United States v. DiPina*, 178 F.3d 68 (1<sup>st</sup> Cir. 1999), *In re Weatherwax*, CTA3 No. 99-3550 [Hazel-Atlas independent action is not a second or successive 2255 motion], *Cullen v. United States*, 194 F.3d 401 (2d Cir. 1999), *Dabelko v. United States*, 211 F.3d 1268 (6th Cir. 2000), *United*

*States vs. Carmichael*, 216 F3d 224 (2d Cir. 2000), *United States vs. Williams*, 247 F3d 353 (2d Cir. 2001), *United States ex rel. Bryant v. Warden*, 50 Fed. Appx. 13 (2d Cir. 2002), *United States v. Peyton*, 12 Fed. Appx. 145 (4th Cir. 2001), *United States vs. Smith*, 348 F3d 545 (6th Cir. 2003), *Blount v. United States*, 330 F.Supp.2d 493 (EDPA 2004), *Commonwealth v. Hanna*, 964 A2d 923 (PA Super. 2009). Important unpublished cases include: *United States v. Lopez*, 93-246-01 (EDPA, Hutton, J.)[2255 granted], *United States v. Garcia-Cintron*, 93CV1771 (EDPA, Gawthrop)[2255 granted, sentence reduced], *United States v. Fazekas*, C.A. No. 94-1542 [WDPA 1994][misclassification as career offender, sentence reduced from 30 years to 10 years], *Henry Jones v. United States*, 2:90CV 4291 [DNJ, Sarokin, J.][2255 motion granted for ineffective assistance, prisoner released], *Hearn v. United States*, C.A. 93-464 [WDVA], [misclassification of methamphetamine, sentence reduced from 180 months to 90 months], *United States v. Richard H. Wilson*, 90 CR169-01, 91 CIV 3326 [EDPA][2255 granted; actual innocence; immediate release], *United States v. Gevares*, 961 F.Supp. 192 (NDOH, ED 1996)[2255 granted; firearms sentence vacated; government motion to resentencing denied], *United States vs. Cross*, CTA6 No. 03-3562 (sentence vacated, and reduced on remand), *United States vs. Alexander*, CTA3 No. 96-1696 [sentence reduced, and case remanded for hearing on distinction between cocaine base and crack cocaine], *United States v. Kostrick*, 103 F3d 114 (3d Cir. 1996)[848 vacated], *United States v. Michaels*, 2001 U.S. Dist. Lexis 19115 (EDPA, Fullam, J.)[term of supervised release reduced], *United States v. Williams*, 146 Fed. Appx. 656 (2d Cir. 2002)[sentence vacated and reduced], *United States v. R. Thomas*, 273 Fed. Appx. 103 (2d Cir. 2008)[sentence vacated and reduced], *United States v. Matos*, 92 Cr 39-A (EDVA, Ellis, J.)[2255 granted, sentence reduced], *United States v. Diaz*, Crim. No. 92-78-02 [EDPA][sentence reduced for miscalculation of criminal history category], *United States v. Eberly*, 5 F3d 1491 (3d Cir. 1993)[2255 granted, sentence vacated], *United States v. Forde*, 92-429-A [EDVA, Hilton][2255 granted, life sentence vacated; sentence reduced]; *United States v. Cruz-Pagan*, 91-0063 [EDPA][2255 granted, life sentence vacated; sentence reduced], *United States v. Ostreicher*, 91cv 3576 [EDNY, Weinstein, J.][2255 motion vacated, special parole term vacated]; *United States vs. S. Jones*, 22 F3d 304 (3d Cir. 1994)[2255 granted, sentence vacated]; *United States vs. S. Jones*, 47 F3d 1162 (3d Cir. 1995)[2255 granted, sentence vacated, sentence reduced]; *United States ex rel. Maurice Roberts vs. Warden*, 93-CV-1064 [NDNY][Probation Department's imposition of restrictions on employment violated due process], *Darryl Pierce v. United States*, 89CR176 (MDPA, Rambo, J.)[2255 granted in part, sentence reduced], *Baron vs. United States*, 97CV290 [DUT][2255 granted, sentence reduced and prisoner released]; *Simpkins vs. United States*, C.A. 5:01CV112 [NDWVA][2255 granted; failure to properly file 851 special information; sentence reduced]; *United States vs. Vernon*, 92-340-01 [EDPA, Dalzell, J.] [2255 granted, restitution order vacated and modified]; *United States vs. Cora Love*, 92-504-16 [EDPA, Giles, C.J.][2255 granted, sentence reduced]; *United States v. Rosa*, 90-38 [DNJ][2255 granted; sentence reduced]; *United States v. Broadus*, 91CR209, 97CV965 [MDNC, Tilley, J.][2255 granted in part, sentence reduced by 20 years]; *United States v. Arevalo*, 94CR702, 97 CV 946 [SDFLA, Moreno, J.][2255 granted, sentence reduced]; *United States vs. H. Cruz*, 93CR341 [SDFLA, Highsmith, J.][2255 granted, sentence reduced]; *Stocker vs. Warden*, 2004 U.S. Dist. Lexis 5395 [EDPA, Giles, C.J.][Habeas corpus granted based on actual innocence, sentence vacated], *Stovall v. Warden*, 2005 U.S. Dist. Lexis 6758 (EDPA Diamond)[2254 habeas granted in part restoring right to appeal]; *Pedretti v. United States*, 1996 U.S. Dist. Lexis 6315 (NDNY, McAvoy C.J.)[2255 granted, sentence reduced]; *United States v. Boggi*, 1997 U.S. Dist. Lexis 14165 (EDPA 1997)[2255 granted, sentence reduced]; *United*

*States ex rel. Shriner v. Warden*, 1:CV03-0481 (MDPA, Rambo, J.) [ [2241 habeas granted, sentence reduced], *Commonwealth v. Keeman Copeland*, [CP 9607-1215 1/3 Greenspan, J.] [PCRA granted based on ineffective assistance of trial and appellate counsel. Conviction for first degree murder vacated. Life sentence vacated], *Boyd v. Nish et al.*, 2007 U.S. Dist. Lexis 7176 (EDPA 2007, Tucker, J.)[Section 2254 habeas corpus granted to state prisoner based on ineffective assistance of trial counsel], *Dockery v. DiGuglielmo, et al.*, Civil No. 04-6025 (EDPA 2007, Buckwalter, J.)[2254 granted, sentence reduced], *Jones v. Piazza*, CTA3 No. 07-1868 (3d Cir. 2007)[reversed order denying habeas corpus under 28 U. S.C. 2254; remanded for resentencing, sentence reduced on remand], *McKeever v. Warden*, 2005 U.S. Dist. Lexis 4714 (EDPA, Diamond, J.)[2254 habeas granted, remanded to state for resentencing], *United States v. Futch*, CR. 402-232 [SDGA, Savannah Div.][2255 granted, sentence reduced], *United States v. Danon*, Cr. 90-43 [DNJ, Lifland][treaty transfer to Israel prior to completion of term of imprisonment], *Commonwealth v. Maurice Jones*, October Term, 1989, No. 0185-0187 [The Third Circuit Court of Appeals granted habeas corpus. Subsequently, the sentencing judge reduced the sentence], *United States v. Coleman*, 206 Fed. Appx. 80 (2d Cir. 2006) [remanded for resentencing, sentence reduced], *United States v. Wayne*, 2008 U.S. Dist Lexis 52133 (WDPA 2008)[3582(c)(2) motion granted sentence reduced], *United States v. Fermin*, 277 Fed. Appx. 28 (2d Cir. 2008)[Sentence vacated and reduced], *United States v. Manigault*, 2010 U.S. App. Lexis 20350 (3d Cir. 2010)[sentence reduced pursuant to 18 USC 3582(c)(2) despite career offender classification], *Commonwealth v. Hanna*, 2009 PA Super. 3 (PA Super. 2009). [Vacated and remanded order denying expungement of criminal record], *In re: Fredrick Pereira* A 027 489 318: Removal order voided and petitioner allowed to remain in the United States] *United States v. Omar Mendoza*, 2009 U.S. Dist. Lexis 48720, 2:05 CV 294 (NDTX, Amarillo) [2255 motion granted based on claim of ineffective assistance of trial counsel, sentence reduced to time served], *United States v. Johnson*, 2011 U.S. App. Lexis 15677 (3d Cir. 2011)[sentence reduced from 360 months to 222 months as a result of a 2255 motion], *United States v. Bruce Wayne Mohammed*, 94CR17 [WDPA, Cohill, J.][Two 3582(c)(2) motions granted, sentence reduced twice].

For more information about representation, please call, write or visit [www.cheryljsturm.com](http://www.cheryljsturm.com). If you are a prisoner with access to an E-Mail system, you should be aware that the system is monitored. Monitoring is inconsistent with the principle that attorney-client communications are confidential. Therefore, you should call or write to protect your attorney-client privilege.

The information contained in this newsletter is valuable but it is not an adequate substitute for legal advice by a lawyer who regularly practices post conviction criminal law.