UNPUBLISHED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

	No. 16-7658	
CHRISTOPHER LEE CALLAHA	M,	
Petitioner - Ap	ppellant,	
v.		
HAROLD CLARKE, Director,		
Respondent -	Appellee.	
Appeal from the United States D Roanoke. James P. Jones, District		
Submitted: May 25, 2017		Decided: May 30, 2017
Before MOTZ, THACKER, and H	ARRIS, Circuit Judge	es.
Dismissed by unpublished per curi	am opinion.	
Christopher Lee Callaham, Appella	ant Pro Se.	
Unpublished opinions are not bind	ing precedent in this c	circuit.

PER CURIAM:

Christopher Lee Callaham seeks to appeal the district court's order denying relief on his 28 U.S.C. § 2254 (2012) petition. The order is not appealable unless a circuit justice or judge issues a certificate of appealability. 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(1)(A) (2012). A certificate of appealability will not issue absent "a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right." 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(2) (2012). When the district court denies relief on the merits, a prisoner satisfies this standard by demonstrating that reasonable jurists would find that the district court's assessment of the constitutional claims is debatable or wrong. *Slack v. McDaniel*, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000); *see Miller-El v. Cockrell*, 537 U.S. 322, 336-38 (2003). When the district court denies relief on procedural grounds, the prisoner must demonstrate both that the dispositive procedural ruling is debatable, and that the petition states a debatable claim of the denial of a constitutional right. *Slack*, 529 U.S. at 484-85.

We have independently reviewed the record and conclude that Callaham has not made the requisite showing. Accordingly, we deny Callaham's motion for a certificate of appealability, deny leave to proceed in forma pauperis, and dismiss the appeal. We dispense with oral argument because the facts and legal contentions are adequately presented in the materials before this court and argument would not aid the decisional process.

DISMISSED