

**UNPUBLISHED**

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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No. 06-6676

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MATTHEW OLIVER ALFORD,

Petitioner - Appellant,

versus

THEODIS BECK, Secretary of Corrections; GEORGE  
KENWORTHY, Superintendent, Lumberton  
Correctional Institution,

Respondents - Appellees.

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Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western  
District of North Carolina, at Asheville. Graham C. Mullen, Senior  
District Judge. (1:06-cv-00095)

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Submitted: September 10, 2007

Decided: October 4, 2007

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Before KING and DUNCAN, Circuit Judges, and WILKINS, Senior Circuit  
Judge.

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Dismissed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

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Matthew Oliver Alford, Appellant Pro Se.

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Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.

PER CURIAM:

Matthew Oliver Alford seeks to appeal the district court's order denying relief on his 28 U.S.C. § 2254 (2000) petition. The order is not appealable unless a circuit justice or judge issues a certificate of appealability. 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(1) (2000). 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) (2000). A prisoner satisfies this standard by demonstrating that reasonable jurists would find that any assessment of the constitutional claims by the district court is debatable or wrong and that any dispositive procedural ruling by the district court is likewise debatable. Miller-El v. Cockrell, 537 U.S. 322, 336-38 (2003); Slack v. McDaniel, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000); Rose v. Lee, 252 F.3d 676, 683-84 (4th Cir. 2001). We have independently reviewed the record and conclude Alford has not made the requisite showing. Accordingly, we deny a certificate of appealability and dismiss the appeal. We dispense with oral argument because the facts and legal contentions are adequately presented in the materials before the court and argument would not aid the decisional process.

DISMISSED