

**UNPUBLISHED**

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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**No. 12-7660**

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RONNIE EWINGS,

Petitioner - Appellant,

v.

TERRY O'BRIEN, Warden, USP Hazelton,

Respondent - Appellee,

and

UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION,

Respondent.

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Appeal from the United States District Court for the Northern  
District of West Virginia, at Clarksburg. Irene M. Keeley,  
District Judge. (1:11-cv-00153-IMK-JSK)

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Submitted: December 20, 2012

Decided: December 27, 2012

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

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Dismissed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

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Linn Richard Walker, Assistant Federal Public Defender,  
Clarksburg, West Virginia, for Appellant. Jarod James Douglas,  
Assistant United States Attorney, Wheeling, West Virginia, for  
Appellee.

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Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.

PER CURIAM:

Ronnie Ewings, a District of Columbia Code offender, seeks to appeal the district court's order adopting the magistrate judge's recommendation to deny relief on his 28 U.S.C.A. § 2241 (West 2006 & Supp. 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) (2006). 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) (2006). 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 Ewings 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