

**UNPUBLISHED**

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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**No. 14-6613**

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MICHAEL RAY KING,

Petitioner - Appellant,

v.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,

Respondent - Appellee.

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Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western  
District of North Carolina, at Asheville. Frank D. Whitney,  
Chief District Judge. (1:13-cv-00296-FDW)

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Submitted: June 26, 2014

Decided: June 30, 2014

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Before WILKINSON, KING, and GREGORY, Circuit Judges.

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Dismissed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

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Michael Ray King, Appellant Pro Se. Clarence Joe DelForge, III,  
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, Raleigh, North Carolina,  
for Appellee.

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Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.

PER CURIAM:

Michael Ray King seeks to appeal the district court's orders denying his motion to appoint counsel and denying relief on his 28 U.S.C. § 2254 (2012) petition. The orders are not appealable unless a circuit justice or judge issues a certificate of appealability. See 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 King 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 this court and argument would not aid the decisional process.

DISMISSED