

**UNPUBLISHED**

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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**No. 15-7340**

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff - Appellee,

and

LINDA THOMAS, Warden of FCI-Edgefield,

Plaintiff,

v.

BOBBY ARION DINKINS,

Defendant - Appellant.

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Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western  
District of North Carolina, at Charlotte. Martin K. Reidinger,  
District Judge. (3:08-cr-00254-MR-1)

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Submitted: November 19, 2015

Decided: November 24, 2015

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Before NIEMEYER, KING, and HARRIS, Circuit Judges.

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Dismissed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

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Bobby Arion Dinkins, Appellant Pro Se. Dana Owen Washington,  
OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, Charlotte, North Carolina,  
for Appellee.

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Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.

PER CURIAM:

Bobby Arion Dinkins seeks to appeal the district court's order dismissing as untimely his 28 U.S.C. § 2255 (2012) motion. 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 Dinkins 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