

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
PINE BLUFF DIVISION

MANUEL RODRIGUEZ,

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Petitioner,

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vs.

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No. 5:09cv0119 SWW/HDY

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LARRY NORRIS, Director,
Arkansas Department of Correction,

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Respondent.

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ORDER

Before this Court is petitioner Manuel Rodriguez’s motion for a certificate of appealability [doc.#32]. This Court has the authority to issue such a certificate. *See, e.g., Cox v. Norris*, 133 F.3d 565, 569 (8th Cir. 1997); *Tiedeman v. Benson*, 122 F.3d 518 (8th Cir. 1997). A certificate of appealability certifies that the applicant has made a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right, that is, a showing that the issues are debatable among reasonable jurists, a court could resolve the issues differently, or the issues deserve further proceedings. *See, e.g., Carson v. Director of the Iowa Dept. of Correctional Services*, 150 F.3d 973, 975 (8th Cir. 1998). With respect to claims that are procedurally barred, the Eighth Circuit has summarized the factors to consider when determining whether a certificate of appealability should issue when a habeas claim is denied on procedural grounds: “(1) if the claim is clearly procedurally defaulted, the certificate should not be issued; (2) even if the procedural default is not clear, if there is no merit to the substantive constitutional claims, the certificate should not be issued; but, (3) if the procedural default is not clear and the substantive constitutional claims are debatable

among jurists of reason, the certificate should be granted.” *Khaimov v. Crist*, 297 F.3d 783, 786 (8th Cir. 2002) (citing *Slack v. McDaniel*, 529 U.S. 473, 484-85 (2000)). *See also Langley v. Norris*, 465 F.3d 861, 863 (8th Cir. 2006).

After reviewing the record in this case, this Court determines that the standard for a certificate of appealability is not met and that petitioner’s motion seeking same should be and hereby is denied.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 7th day of August 2008.

/s/Susan Webber Wright
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE