

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

JOSEPH L. STEPHENS
ADC #094967

PETITIONER

VS. 5:16CV00006 JM/JTR

WENDY KELLEY, Director,
Arkansas Department of Correction

RESPONDENT

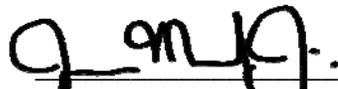
ORDER

The Court has reviewed the Recommended Disposition submitted by United States Magistrate Judge J. Thomas Ray and the filed objections. After carefully considering these documents and making a *de novo* review of the record of the record in this case, the Court concludes that the Recommended Disposition should be, and hereby is, approved and adopted in its entirety as this Court's findings in all respects. Judgment will be entered accordingly.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Petitioner Joseph L. Stephens' 28 U.S.C. § 2254 Petition for a Writ of Habeas Corpus, *Doc. 2*, is DENIED with prejudice; and
2. A Certificate of Appealability is DENIED, *see* 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(1)-(2); Rule 11(a), Rules Governing § 2254 Cases in United States District Courts.

DATED this 6th day of October, 2016.


UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE