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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA SAVANNAH DIVISION

CHARLES CLARK, JR.)	
Petitioner,)	
v.)	CV418-038
VANCE LAUGHLIN, Warden, and)	
STATE BOARD OF PAROLE AND)	
PROBATION,)	
Respondents.)	

ORDER

Charles Clark, Jr., who is detained at Wheeler Correctional Facility, attacks a Bibb County conviction and sentence for robbery by sudden snatching pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. Doc. 1. It is not clear why he filed his petition in this Court's Savannah Division, as Wheeler County lies within the Court's Dublin Division, 28 U.S.C. § 90(c)(2), and Bibb County lies in the Middle District of Georgia, 28 U.S.C. 90(b)(2). Federal law allows his petition to be filed in the district within which he was convicted or in the district within which he is confined. 28 U.S.C. § 2241(d); Wright v. Indiana, 263 F. App'x 794, 795 (11th Cir. 2008).

Hence, this Court and the Middle District concurrently have jurisdiction

to hear his case.

It is longstanding judicial policy and practice to funnel such

petitions into the district within which the state prisoner was convicted,

since that will be the most convenient forum. Mitchell v. Henderson, 432

F.2d 435, 436 (5th Cir. 1970); see Wright, 263 F. App'x at 795. That also

fosters an equitable distribution of habeas cases between the districts.

The Court therefore concludes that this case should be transferred to the

Middle District. Hence, it **DIRECTS** the Clerk to transfer this case to

the Middle District of Georgia for all further proceedings. See 28 U.S.C.

§ 1404(a) (permitting a district court to transfer any civil action to

another district or division where it may have been brought for the

convenience of parties and witnesses and in the interest of justice); Rufus

v. Kemp, 2013 WL 2659983 at * 1 (S.D. Ga. June 12, 2013).

SO ORDERED, this <u>25th</u> day of April, 2018.

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

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