Blakley v. Krueger Doc. 12

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS PEORIA DIVISION

NATHAN BLAKLEY,	
Petitioner,	

Case No. 1:16-cv-01492-JES

v.

STEVE KALLIS, Respondent.

ORDER

Before the Court are the Petitioner, Nathan Blakley's, *pro se* Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241 (D. 1)¹ and the Government's Response (D. 6). For the reasons set forth below, the Petition (D. 1) is DENIED and this matter is terminated.

In December 2016, the Petitioner filed his petition, arguing that, pursuant to *Mathis v*. *United States*, 136 S. Ct. 2243 (2016), his sentence was calculated using improper predicates to enhance his sentence and qualify him as a career offender pursuant to United States Sentencing Guidelines § 4B1.1. *Id.* at pp. 7-9. Given two decisions from the Seventh Circuit, *Hawkins v*. *United States*, 706 F.3d 820 (7th Cir. 2013) (*Hawkins I*) and *Hawkins v*. *United States*, 724 F.3d 915 (7th Cir. 2013) (*Hawkins II*), the Petitioner is precluded from obtaining relief.

Together, *Hawkins I* and *Hawkins II* hold that a petitioner may not seek on collateral review to revisit a district court's calculation of an offender's advisory guidelines range. Given the interest in finality of criminal proceedings, in *Hawkins I* the Seventh Circuit held an erroneous interpretation of the guidelines should not be corrigible in a postconviction proceeding so long as

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¹ Citations to the Docket in this case are abbreviated as "D. __."

the sentence actually imposed was not greater than the statutory maximum. Hawkins I, 706 F.3d

at 823-25. It specifically distinguished the advisory guidelines from the mandatory system in place

at the time of Narvaez v. United States, 674 F.3d 621 (7th Cir. 2011) (holding Narvaez's improper

sentence under the mandatory guidelines constituted a miscarriage of justice). Hawkins moved

for rehearing in light of *Peugh v. United States*, 133 S. Ct. 2072 (2013), in which the Supreme

Court held the Guidelines were subject to constitutional challenges "notwithstanding the fact that

sentencing courts possess discretion to deviate from the recommended sentencing range." Peugh,

133 S. Ct. at 2082.

The Seventh Circuit denied rehearing because *Peugh* was a constitutional case whereas

Hawkins I involved a miscalculated guidelines range, the legal standard in Peugh was lower than

that required for postconviction relief, and Peugh's retroactivity was uncertain. Hawkins II, 724

F.3d at 916-18 ("[I]t doesn't follow that postconviction relief is proper just because the judge,

though he could lawfully have imposed the sentence that he did impose, might have imposed a

lighter sentence had he calculated the applicable guidelines sentencing range correctly.").

Petitioner's claim is thus untenable. Accordingly, the Court DENIES the Petitioner's petition (D.

1). This matter is now terminated.

It is so ordered.

Entered on May 16, 2018

s/ James E. Shadid

James E. Shadid

Chief United States District Judge

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