IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

TRAVIS M. CANNADY,) Petitioner,) v.) ALVIN W. KELLER, JR.,) Respondent.)

ORDER AND RECOMMENDATION OF UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Petitioner, a prisoner of the State of North Carolina, has submitted a petition under 28

U.S.C. § 2254 for a writ of habeas corpus by a person in state custody. For the following

reasons, the Petition cannot be further processed.

- 1. Filing fee was not received, nor was an affidavit to proceed *in forma pauperis* submitted and signed by Petitioner.
- 2. Petitioner has failed to indicate that state court remedies have been exhausted. [28 U.S.C. § 2254(b).] In fact, he appears to affirmatively indicate that he has not attempted to exhaust his state court remedies. (Docket Entry 1, §12, Ground One (b).)

Because of these pleading failures, the Petition should be filed and then dismissed, without prejudice to Petitioner filing a new petition on the proper habeas corpus forms with the \$5.00 filing fee, or a completed application to proceed *in forma pauperis*, once he has exhausted his state court remedies. The Court has no authority to toll the statute of limitation, therefore, it continues to run, and Petitioner must act quickly if he wishes to pursue the Petition. *See Spencer v. Sutton*, 239 F.3d 626 (4th Cir. 2001). To further aid

Petitioner, the Clerk is instructed to send Petitioner a new application to proceed *in forma pauperis*, new § 2254 forms, and instructions for filing a § 2254 petition, which Petitioner should follow once he has exhausted his state court remedies.

In forma pauperis status will be granted for the sole purpose of entering this Order and Recommendation.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that *in forma pauperis* status is granted for the sole purpose of entering this Order and Recommendation. The Clerk is instructed to send Petitioner § 2254 forms, instructions, and a current application to proceed *in forma pauperis*.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that this action be filed, but then dismissed *sua sponte* without prejudice to Petitioner filing a new petition which corrects the defects of the current petition.

/s/ L. Patrick Auld L. Patrick Auld United States Magistrate Judge

May 27, 2011