

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
WESTERN DIVISION

JERONE MCDOUGALD,	:	
	:	NO. 1:11-CV-00790
Petitioner,	:	
	:	
	:	
v.	:	<b>ORDER &amp; OPINION</b>
	:	
	:	
WARDEN, Lebanon Correctional	:	
Institution,	:	
	:	
Respondent.	:	

This matter is before the Court on the October 1, 2012 Magistrate Judge’s Report and Recommendation (doc. 16) and Petitioner’s objections thereto (doc. 20).

As required by 29 U.S.C. § 636(b) and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 72(b), the Court has reviewed the comprehensive findings and analyses of the Magistrate Judge and considered de novo all of the filings in this matter. Upon consideration of the foregoing, the Court finds that Petitioner procedurally defaulted on the claims he presents in his petition because he failed to present them to the state court as required. He is not entitled to relief from his procedural default because he has failed to demonstrate cause for his default and he has not

shown that a fundamental miscarriage of justice occurred with his conviction.

Petitioner's objections to the Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendation are not persuasive. He argues that his procedural default should be set aside because not granting his petition for a writ of habeas corpus would amount to a fundamental miscarriage of justice (doc. 20). In both his habeas petition and his reply to the return of writ, he alleges that he has a colorable claim for actual innocence, which can provide the basis for a finding of fundamental miscarriage of justice. However, Petitioner provides nothing more than a bare assertion of innocence to support this allegation. Instead, he attempts to use his claim of actual innocence as a backdoor to the claims he has procedurally defaulted. That is, he appears to assert that he is actually innocent because, inter alia, his indictment and conviction were secured on the basis of false testimony. This assertion forms the basis of ground three of his habeas petition, which, as noted above and as detailed extensively by the Magistrate Judge, is procedurally defaulted. In essence, Petitioner's objections amount to a rehashing of the arguments presented in both his petition and his reply to the return of writ. They do nothing to show this Court that the Magistrate Judge erred in her Report and Recommendation, and the

