UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

MELVIN KEITH RICHARDSON,

Petitioner,

CIVIL ACTION

v.

No. 07-2065

JOSEPH PIAZZA, et al.,

Respondents.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 20th day of January, 2010, upon consideration of petitioner's Amended Habeas Corpus Petition (Docket No. 15), respondents' Answer (Docket No. 24), petitioner's Reply (Docket No. 25), the Report and Recommendation of United States Magistrate Judge Linda K. Caracappa (Docket No. 26), petitioner's Objections to Report and Recommendation (Docket No. 27), petitioner's Petition for Review and Reconsideration (Docket No. 30), and the record herein, and for the reasons provided in the accompanying opinion, it is hereby **ORDERED** that:

- 1. The Report and Recommendation is APPROVED AND ADOPTED IN

 MAJOR PART and NOT ADOPTED IN MINOR PART, as set forth in the

 accompanying opinion;
 - 2. The petition for a writ of habeas corpus is **DISMISSED**;
 - 3. A Certificate of Appealability is **NOT GRANTED**; and

4	The	Petition	for	Review	and	Reconsid	leration	is	DENIED.

/s/Louis H. Pollak

Pollak, J.