IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CURTIS SMITH : CIVIL ACTION

Petitioner, :

:

v.

S

:

JOHN KERESTES, et al. : No. 08-0061

Respondents. :

ORDER

AND NOW, this 16th day of June, 2009, upon consideration of the Petitioner's petition for writ of habeas corpus, the Respondents' Answer to the Petition, and the Report and Recommendation of United States Magistrate Judge Lynne A. Sitarski, the Petitioner's Objections thereto, the Respondents' objections thereto, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus is DENIED and DISMISSED without an evidentiary hearing; and a certificate of appealability is GRANTED as to Petitioner's ineffective assistance of counsel claim under *United States v. Cronic*, 466 U.S. 648 (1984).

BY THE COURT:

BERLE M. SCHILLER, J.