

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

CLARISSA ANN LUYSTER,)	
Petitioner,)	Civil Action No. 13-271 Erie
)	
v.)	
)	Magistrate Judge Susan Paradise Baxter
WAYNE COUNTY, <u>et al.</u> ,)	
Respondents.)	

OPINION AND ORDER

The Petitioner, Clarissa Ann Luyster, is currently incarcerated in the State Correctional Institution located in Cambridge Springs, Pennsylvania ("SCI Cambridge Springs"). She has filed with this Court a petition for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. In the petition, Luyster is challenging the judgment of sentence imposed upon her on May 8, 2008, by the Court of Common Pleas of Wayne County. SCI Cambridge Springs is located within the territorial boundaries of this District. Wayne County is located within the territorial boundaries of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

When a state prisoner files a petition for a writ of habeas corpus in a state like Pennsylvania, that contains two or more Federal judicial districts,

the application may be filed in the district court for the district wherein such person is in custody or in the district court for the district within which the State court was held which convicted and sentenced him and each of such district courts shall have concurrent jurisdiction to entertain the application. **The district court for the district wherein such an application is filed in the exercise of its discretion and in furtherance of justice may transfer the application to the other district court for hearing and determination.**

28 U.S.C. § 2241(d) (emphasis added).

Luyster was tried, convicted, and sentenced in the Court of Common Pleas of Wayne County and, therefore, most, if not all, of the relevant activity occurred within the Middle District of

Pennsylvania. Thus, this Court finds that the furtherance of justice, as well as the convenience of the parties, would be better served by transferring this case to the Middle District Court. This decision is in accordance with the agreed practice of the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern, Middle, and Western Districts of Pennsylvania, which is to transfer any habeas petitions filed by state prisoners in their respective districts to the district in which the county where the judgment of sentence was had is located.

An appropriate Order follows.

Dated: September 10, 2013

/s/ Susan Paradise Baxter
SUSAN PARADISE BAXTER
United States Magistrate Judge

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ORDER

AND NOW, this 10th day of September, 2013;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this case be transferred to the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

/s/ Susan Paradise Baxter
SUSAN PARADISE BAXTER
United States Magistrate Judge

Notice by first class mail to:

Clarissa Ann Luyster
OM-9232
SCI Cambridge Springs
451 Fullerton Avenue
Cambridge Springs, PA 16403