## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA ROANOKE DIVISION

CLERK'S OFFICE U.S. DIST. COURT AT ROANGKE, VA FILED JUN 0 8 2005

JOHN	F. CORCOBAN, CLERK
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GEORGE ELDRIDGE,	)	Civil Action No. 7:05-CV- 00342
Petitioner,	)	
v.	)	MEMORANDUM OPINION
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	) ) By: Samuel G. Wilson	
Respondent.	)	United States District Judge

Petitioner George Eldridge brings this motion to correct his sentence pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255, claiming that the recent Supreme Court decision in <u>United States v. Booker</u>, 125 S. Ct. 738 (Jan. 12, 2005), renders his sentence illegal. However, the Court did not make its decision in <u>Booker</u> applicable to cases on collateral review; therefore, the court will file and dismiss this motion pursuant to Rule 4(b) of the Rules Governing Section 2255 Proceedings.

I.

Eldridge challenges his 175-month sentence for making false statements and fraudulent use of a social security number<sup>1</sup> under the Supreme Court's recent decision in <u>United States v. Booker</u>, 125 S. Ct. 738 (Jan. 12, 2005). Though the Court held that <u>Booker</u> applies to the Federal Sentencing Guidelines and to cases on direct review, it did not make <u>Booker</u> retroactive to cases on collateral review. <u>Booker</u>, 125 S. Ct. at 769. Therefore, the Court's decision in <u>Booker</u> is not applicable to Eldridge's motion under § 2255 ¶ 6(3), and the court dismisses his

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Eldridge pleaded guilty, and the court entered judgment August 29, 1997. Eldridge appealed his conviction, and the Fourth Circuit affirmed his sentence on July 2, 1998. Eldridge then filed a petition for certiorari at the United States Supreme Court on November 16, 1998, which the Court denied on January 11, 1999.

II.

For the reasons stated, the court files and dismisses Eldridge's § 2255 motion pursuant to Rule 4(b) of the Rules Governing Section 2255 Proceedings.

ENTER: This \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2005.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Additionally, Eldridge's petition is untimely. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255, a petitioner must file his motion within one-year from the date his conviction becomes final. See 28 U.S.C. § 2255 ¶ 6(1). Assuming that the Supreme Court considered Eldridge's petition for certiorari timely, his conviction became final on January 11, 1999, when the Court denied his petition for certiorari, see Clay v. U.S., 537 U.S. 522, 525 (2003), meaning he had until January 11, 2000, to file a § 2255 petition. Eldridge did not meet this deadline, and he does not meet any of the conditions allowing for a later commencement of the statutory period. See 28 U.S.C. § 2255 ¶ 6(1).