

UNPUBLISHED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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**No. 04-6032**

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ARTHUR LEE WILLIAMS,

Petitioner - Appellant,

versus

COLLIE RUSHTON, Warden; HENRY DARGAN  
MCMASTER, Attorney General of the State  
of South Carolina,

Respondents - Appellees.

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Appeal from the United States District Court for the District of  
South Carolina, at Charleston. Joseph F. Anderson, Jr., Chief  
District Judge. (CA-03-1724-2-17)

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Submitted: March 25, 2004

Decided: April 1, 2004

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Before TRAXLER, KING, and DUNCAN, Circuit Judges.

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Dismissed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

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Arthur Lee Williams, Appellant Pro Se. Melody Jane Brown, OFFICE  
OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF SOUTH CAROLINA, Columbia, South  
Carolina, for Appellees.

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Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.  
See Local Rule 36(c).

PER CURIAM:

Arthur Lee Williams seeks to appeal the district court's order adopting the magistrate judge's report and dismissing as untimely his petition filed under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 (2000). An appeal may not be taken from the final order in a § 2254 proceeding unless a circuit justice or judge issues a certificate of appealability. 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(1) (2000). A certificate of appealability will not issue absent "a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right." 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(2) (2000). A prisoner satisfies this standard by demonstrating that reasonable jurists would find that his constitutional claims are debatable and that any dispositive procedural rulings by the district court are also debatable or wrong. See Miller-El v. Cockrell, 537 U.S. 322, 336 (2003); Slack v. McDaniel, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000); Rose v. Lee, 252 F.3d 676, 683 (4th Cir. 2001). We have independently reviewed the record and conclude that Williams has not made the requisite showing. Accordingly, we deny a certificate of appealability and dismiss the appeal. We dispense with oral argument because the facts and legal contentions are adequately presented in the materials before the court and argument would not aid the decisional process.

DISMISSED