

UNPUBLISHED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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**No. 04-6716**

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EDWIN PHILLIPS, JR.,

Petitioner - Appellant,

versus

ATTORNEY GENERAL,

Respondent - Appellee.

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Appeal from the United States District Court for the Middle  
District of North Carolina, at Durham. James A. Beaty, Jr.,  
District Judge. (CA-03-565-1)

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Submitted: August 27, 2004

Decided: September 16, 2004

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Before NIEMEYER, LUTTIG, and TRAXLER, Circuit Judges.

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Dismissed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

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Edwin Phillips, Jr., Appellant Pro Se. Clarence Joe DelForge, III,  
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, Raleigh, North Carolina, for  
Appellee.

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Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.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

PER CURIAM:

Edwin Phillips, Jr., seeks to appeal the district court's order adopting the magistrate judge's report and recommendation and dismissing his petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 (2000). The order is not appealable 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 Phillips 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