

**UNPUBLISHED**

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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**No. 97-6815**

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DANA LEE HOWARD,

Petitioner - Appellant,

versus

RICHARD A. LANHAM, SR.; ATTORNEY GENERAL OF  
THE STATE OF MARYLAND,

Respondents - Appellees.

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Appeal from the United States District Court for the District of  
Maryland, at Baltimore. J. Frederick Motz, Chief District Judge.  
(CA-96-3628-JFM)

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Submitted: December 18, 1997

Decided: January 7, 1998

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Before WILKINS, NIEMEYER, and WILLIAMS, Circuit Judges.

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Dismissed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

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Dana Lee Howard, Appellant Pro Se. John Joseph Curran, Jr., Attor-  
ney General, Annabelle Louise Lisic, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
OF MARYLAND, Baltimore, Maryland, for Appellees.

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Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.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

PER CURIAM:

Appellant seeks to appeal the district court's order denying relief on his petition filed under 28 U.S.C.A. § 2254 (West 1994 & Supp. 1997). We have reviewed the record and the district court's opinion and find no reversible error. Accordingly, we deny a certificate of appealability and dismiss the appeal on the reasoning of the district court. Howard v. Lanham, No. CA-96-3628-JFM (D. Md. May 1, 1997). 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