

**UNPUBLISHED**

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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**No. 02-7271**

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EZRA LUCAS,

Plaintiff - Appellant,

versus

RONALD HUTCHINSON, Warden, Maryland House of  
Corrections; J. JOSEPH CURRAN, JR., 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. Marvin J. Garbis, District Judge. (CA-02-  
366-MJG)

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Submitted: December 16, 2002

Decided: December 20, 2002

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Before LUTTIG, MICHAEL, and MOTZ, Circuit Judges.

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Dismissed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

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Fred Warren Bennett, Greenbelt, Maryland, for Appellant. Ann Norman  
Bosse, 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Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.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:

Ezra Lucas seeks to appeal the district court's order denying relief on his petition filed under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 (2000). We have reviewed the record and conclude for the reasons stated by the district court that Lucas has not made a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right. See Lucas v. Hutchinson, No. CA-02-366-MJG (D. Md. July 31, 2002). Accordingly, we deny a certificate of appealability and dismiss the appeal. See 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c) (2000). 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