

**UNPUBLISHED**

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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**No. 02-7892**

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CHARLES LEE MARDUK KNIGHT EL,

Petitioner - Appellant,

versus

RONALD J. ANGELONE, Director, Virginia  
Department of Corrections,

Respondent - Appellee.

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Appeal from the United States District Court for the Eastern  
District of Virginia, at Richmond. Robert E. Payne, District Judge.  
(CA-02-250-3)

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Submitted: February 6, 2003

Decided: February 13, 2003

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Before WILKINS, MICHAEL, and SHEDD, Circuit Judges.

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Dismissed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

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Charles Lee Marduk Knight El, Appellant Pro Se. Leah Ann Darron,  
Assistant Attorney General, Richmond, Virginia, for Appellee.

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Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.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

PER CURIAM:

Charles Lee Marduk Knight El seeks to appeal the district court's order 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 habeas corpus proceeding unless a circuit justice or judge issues a certificate of appealability. 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(1) (2000). When, as here, a district court dismisses a § 2254 petition solely on procedural grounds, a certificate of appealability will not issue unless the petitioner can demonstrate both "(1) 'that jurists of reason would find it debatable whether the petition states a valid claim of the denial of a constitutional right' and (2) 'that jurists of reason would find it debatable whether the district court was correct in its procedural ruling.'" Rose v. Lee, 252 F. 3d 676, 684 (4th Cir.) (quoting Slack v. McDaniel, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000)), cert. denied, 534 U.S. 941 (2001). We have reviewed the record and conclude for the reasons stated by the district court that El has not made the requisite showing. See El v. Angelone, No. CA-02-250-3 (E.D. Va. Nov. 19, 2002). 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