

UNPUBLISHED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

No. 17-7566

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff - Appellee,

v.

WAYNE PORTER,

Defendant - Appellant.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western District of North Carolina,
at Charlotte. Richard L. Voorhees, Senior District Judge. (3:85-cr-00062-RLV-1)

Submitted: April 26, 2018

Decided: May 1, 2018

Before WILKINSON and TRAXLER, Circuit Judges, and SHEDD, Senior Circuit Judge.

Dismissed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

Wayne Porter, Appellant Pro Se.

Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.

PER CURIAM:

Wayne Porter seeks to appeal the district court's order denying his 28 U.S.C. § 2255 (2012) motion as successive.* The order is not appealable unless a circuit justice or judge issues a certificate of appealability. 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(1)(B) (2012). 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) (2012). When the district court denies relief on the merits, a prisoner satisfies this standard by demonstrating that reasonable jurists would find that the district court's assessment of the constitutional claims is debatable or wrong. *Slack v. McDaniel*, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000); see *Miller-El v. Cockrell*, 537 U.S. 322, 336-38 (2003). When the district court denies relief on procedural grounds, the prisoner must demonstrate both that the dispositive procedural ruling is debatable, and that the motion states a debatable claim of the denial of a constitutional right. *Slack*, 529 U.S. at 484-85.

We have independently reviewed the record and conclude that Porter has not made the requisite showing. Accordingly, we deny a certificate of appealability, deny leave to proceed in forma pauperis, and dismiss the appeal. We dispense with oral argument

* We reject Porter's contention that his filing was cognizable under former Fed. R. Crim. P. 35(a).

because the facts and legal contentions are adequately presented in the materials before this court and argument would not aid the decisional process.

DISMISSED