

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF KANSAS**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

MIGUEL ROMERO,

Defendant.

Case No. 05-20017

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

Defendant Miguel Romero wrote a letter to this court, received on September 17, 2009, which has been filed as a Motion for Extension of Time (doc. #307) asking for a 180-day extension of time to file a petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2255. The one-year deadline for filing a § 2255 petition was set by Congress, and “any extension of this time period contravenes Congress’ clear intent to accelerate the federal habeas process.” *Washington v. United States*, No. 99-3383, 2000 WL 985885, at * 1 (10th Cir. July 18, 2000); *see also United States v. Duffus*, 174 F.3d 333, 337-38 (3d Cir. 1999) (approving denial of motion to amend habeas petition to add new claims because

it would have frustrated the intent of Congress that claims under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 be advanced within one year after a judgment of conviction becomes final unless any of the other circumstances in 28 U.S.C. § 2255 are applicable.... We reiterate that if the court permitted the amendment it would have acted contrary to the policy of the AEDPA, which requires courts to measure the running of the limitations periods from the date on which the judgment of conviction becomes final);

United States v. Akers, No. 04-20089, 2008 WL 5109769, at *1 (D. Kan. Dec. 2, 2008). Such judicial intervention is justified only under “extraordinary” or “rare and exceptional” circumstances. *Washington*, 2000 WL 985885, at *2 (citing *United States v. Willis*, 202 F.3d 1279, 1281 n.3 (10th Cir. 2000)). “[A]lthough the time limitation under § 2255 is subject to equitable tolling, it is clear that the mere allegation of inability of a prisoner to gather facts or gain access to documents due to lockdown status does not justify equitable tolling.” *Hunter v. Davis*, No. 09-0827, 2009 WL 1810840, at *1 (D. Colo. June 24, 2009) (citation omitted).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE COURT that defendant’s motion for an extension of time to file a petition under § 2255 (doc. #307) is denied.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 30th day of September, 2009.

s/ John W. Lungstrum
John W. Lungstrum
United States District Judge