United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit

## FILED

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

June 18, 2004

Charles R. Fulbruge III Clerk

No. 03-40925 Summary Calendar

PAUL ALLAN LARSON,

Petitioner-Appellant,

versus

PER CURIAM:\*

DOUG DRETKE, DIRECTOR, TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS DIVISION,

Respondent-Appellee.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas USDC No. 9:03-CV-59

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Before HIGGINBOTHAM, DAVIS and PRADO, Circuit Judges.

Paul Allan Larson, Texas prisoner # 452522, appeals the denial of his 28 U.S.C. § 2254 petition challenging disciplinary proceeding # 20030044031. Larson was granted a certificate of appealability (COA) on the issue whether he was deprived due process when he was allegedly denied the right to call witnesses in his defense. See Larson v. Dretke, No. 03-40925 (5th Cir.

 $<sup>^{*}</sup>$  Pursuant to 5TH CIR. R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR. R. 47.5.4.

Dec. 22, 2003) (unpublished). Larson has also moved to supplement the record and for appointment of counsel.

Review of the disciplinary hearing transcript does not support Larson's contention that he was denied the opportunity to call defense witnesses. The hearing officer provided Larson with such an opportunity; inmate Daniel Johnson was called to testify on his behalf, and Larson did not ask to present any other witnesses. Although Larson stated that other witnesses could testify that his property was already packed and ready for the move to the north gym, the charging officer did not dispute this fact. Witness testimony on that issue would therefore have been cumulative. Consequently, the absence of testimony on this issue did not result in a due process deprivation. See Wolff v.

McDonnell, 418 U.S. 539, 663-66 (1974).

Insofar as Larson asks this court to revisit his claims of ineffective assistance of counsel substitute and insufficiency of the evidence, we decline to do so as theses issues are outside the scope of the COA grant. <u>See Lackey v. Johnson</u>, 116 F.3d 149, 152 (5th Cir. 1997).

AFFIRMED; ALL OUTSTANDING MOTIONS DENIED.