

## APPENDIX

**UNITED STATES of America,  
Plaintiff-Appellee**

v.

**Eddie Ray WIESE, Jr., also known as  
Eddie Ray Weise, Jr., Defendant-  
Appellant**

**No. 17-50445**

United States Court of Appeals,  
Fifth Circuit.

FILED July 23, 2018

REVISED August 14, 2018

**Background:** Defendant filed successive motion to vacate sentence, alleging that at sentencing for being a felon in possession of firearm, he should not have received an enhanced sentence under Armed Career Criminal Act (ACCA), in light of Supreme Court's decision in *Johnson v. United States* that the definition of violent felony in the ACCA was unconstitutionally vague under due process principles. The United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, Robert L. Pitman, J., denied the motion. Defendant appealed.

**Holdings:** The Court of Appeals, Haynes, Circuit Judge, held that:

- (1) as a matter of first impression, to determine whether jurisdictional bar to successive motion can be avoided because the claim is based on *Johnson v. United States*, court must look to law at time of sentencing to determine whether sentence was imposed under residual clause of the ACCA's definition of violent felony, and
- (2) defendant did not show that his sentence potentially was imposed under the ACCA's residual clause.

Judgment vacated; motion dismissed.

**1. Criminal Law ⇌1434**

In absence of Government's invocation of appeal waiver and enforcement of appeal waiver, defendant's plea agreement, in which he voluntarily and knowingly

waived his right to contest his sentence in a post-conviction proceeding, did not preclude him from bringing a motion to vacate sentence, alleging that his sentence for being a felon in possession of firearm should not have been enhanced under Armed Career Criminal Act (ACCA). 18 U.S.C.A. §§ 922(g)(1), 924(a)(2), (e)(2)(B)(ii); 28 U.S.C.A. § 2255.

**2. Criminal Law ⇌1026.10(1)**

The Government must invoke an appeal waiver, to enforce it.

**3. Criminal Law ⇌1139, 1158.36**

District court's ultimate decision whether to grant a second or successive motion to vacate sentence is reviewed de novo as a question of law, and factual findings are reviewed for clear error. 28 U.S.C.A. §§ 2244(b), 2255(h).

**4. Criminal Law ⇌1668(3)**

To determine whether defendant can avoid jurisdictional bar to successive motion to vacate sentence because defendant's sentence was imposed under residual clause in definition of violent felony in Armed Career Criminal Act (ACCA), which clause was found unconstitutionally vague in new and retroactive constitutional rule of law announced by Supreme Court in *Johnson v. United States*, the court must look to the law at the time of sentencing to determine whether the sentence was imposed under the definition's enumerated offenses clause or the residual clause. U.S. Const. Amend. 5; 18 U.S.C.A. § 924(e)(2)(B)(ii); 28 U.S.C.A. §§ 2244(b)(2)(A), (b)(4), 2255(h)(2).

**5. Criminal Law ⇌1668(3)**

Assuming that the "may have" standard was appropriate standard when determining whether defendant could avoid jurisdictional bar to successive motion to vacate sentence, defendant did not show that sentencing court may have relied on

residual clause in definition of violent felony in Armed Career Criminal Act (ACCA), which clause was found unconstitutionally vague in new and retroactive constitutional rule of law announced by Supreme Court in *Johnson v. United States*; at time of federal conviction, all of the statute of conviction for defendant's prior Texas burglary convictions had been considered generic burglary, so absolutely nothing put residual clause on sentencing court's radar, and presentence report (PSR) and other documents before sentencing court clearly indicated that sentencing judge would have relied on enumerated offenses clause. U.S. Const. Amend. 5; 18 U.S.C.A. § 924(e)(2)(B)(ii); 28 U.S.C.A. §§ 2244(b)(2)(A), (b)(4), 2255(h)(2); Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 30.02(a).

**6. Criminal Law** ⇌1668(3)

To determine whether defendant can avoid jurisdictional bar to successive motion to vacate sentence because defendant's sentence potentially was imposed under residual clause in definition of violent felony in Armed Career Criminal Act (ACCA), which clause was found unconstitutionally vague in new and retroactive constitutional rule of law announced by Supreme Court in *Johnson v. United States*, the court may look to: (1) the sentencing record for direct evidence of the sentence, and (2) the relevant background legal environment that existed at time of defendant's sentencing and the presentence report (PSR) and other relevant materials before the sentencing court. U.S. Const. Amend. 5; 18 U.S.C.A. § 924(e)(2)(B)(ii); 28 U.S.C.A. §§ 2244(b)(2)(A), (b)(4), 2255(h)(2).

**7. Criminal Law** ⇌1668(3)

Supreme Court's decision in *Mathis v. U.S.*, 136 S.Ct. 2243, addressing when a prior conviction qualified as the generic form of a predicate violent felony offense enumerated in the Armed Career Criminal Act (ACCA), did not state a new rule of

constitutional law that the Supreme Court has made retroactive to cases on collateral review, for purposes of avoiding jurisdictional bar to successive motion to vacate sentence. 28 U.S.C.A. §§ 2244(b)(2)(A), 2255(h)(2).

**8. Constitutional Law** ⇌4729

**Sentencing and Punishment** ⇌1210

Supreme Court's decision in *Johnson v. United States*, that the definition of violent felony in the Armed Career Criminal Act (ACCA) is unconstitutionally vague under due process principles, applies only to the definition's residual clause, and not to the definition's enumerated offenses clause. U.S. Const. Amend. 5; 18 U.S.C.A. § 924(e)(2)(B)(ii).

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, Robert L. Pitman, U.S. District Judge

Joseph H. Gay, Jr., Assistant U.S. Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office, Western District of Texas, San Antonio, TX, Zachary Carl Richter, Assistant U.S. Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office, Western District of Texas, Austin, TX, for Plaintiff-Appellee.

Bradford W. Bogan, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Maureen Scott Franco, Federal Public Defender, Federal Public Defender's Office, Western District of Texas, San Antonio, TX, for Defendant-Appellant.

Before DAVIS, HAYNES, and  
DUNCAN, Circuit Judges.

HAYNES, Circuit Judge:

We granted Eddie Ray Wiese, Jr. a certificate of appealability on his successive habeas corpus motion. He argues that his sentence should not have been enhanced under the Armed Career Criminal Act ("ACCA"). Because Wiese had not established a jurisdictional predicate for his successive habeas motion at the district court level, we VACATE the district

court's judgment and DISMISS Wiese's motion for lack of jurisdiction.

### I. Background

[1,2] In 2003, Wiese was charged under 18 U.S.C. §§ 922(g)(1) and 924(a)(2) with being a felon in possession of a firearm following a 1988 Texas burglary of a habitation conviction. Wiese pleaded guilty pursuant to a written plea agreement.<sup>1</sup> At his rearraignment, Wiese pleaded true to the fact that he had four prior violent felony or serious drug offense convictions, subjecting him to a statutory mandatory minimum sentence of fifteen years in prison and up to five years of supervised release. His guidelines range was 188 to 235 months in prison. The district court sentenced Wiese to 235 months in prison and a five-year term of supervised release.

Wiese filed his initial habeas application in 2004, arguing that his sentence was unconstitutional under *Blakely v. Washington*, 542 U.S. 296, 124 S.Ct. 2531, 159 L.Ed.2d 403 (2004). The district court denied relief. He filed the current, second motion in June 2016, following the Supreme Court's decision in *Johnson v. United States*, — U.S. —, 135 S.Ct. 2551, 192 L.Ed.2d 569 (2015). In *Johnson*, the Court determined that ACCA's residual clause defining a "violent felony" was unconstitutionally vague. 135 S.Ct. at 2555–57. In *Welch v. United States*, — U.S. —, 136 S.Ct. 1257, 1268, 194 L.Ed.2d 387 (2016), the Court held that *Johnson* retroactively applied to cases on collateral review. Wiese sought and received authorization from this court to file his second 28 U.S.C. § 2255 motion. See § 2255(h). In the authorization, we cautioned that it was

"tentative in that the district court must dismiss the § 2255 motion without reaching the merits if it determines that Wiese has failed to make the showing required to file such a motion." See 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(4).

The district court denied Wiese's motion. It first determined that it had jurisdiction to reach the merits. The argument forming the basis for Wiese's motion—that the Texas burglary statute was not divisible—was based on statutory interpretation following *Mathis v. United States*, — U.S. —, 136 S.Ct. 2243, 195 L.Ed.2d 604 (2016), a case which we had held did not apply retroactively. See *In re Lott*, 838 F.3d 522, 523 (5th Cir. 2016) (per curiam). Nonetheless, the district court held that because *Johnson* applied retroactively, it was inconsequential that *Mathis* did not. It reasoned that Wiese could have been convicted under a non-generic form of Texas burglary, Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(3), which only qualified for ACCA purposes under the residual clause. See *United States v. Constante*, 544 F.3d 584, 587 (5th Cir. 2008) (per curiam).

After finding jurisdiction, the district court denied relief based upon our decision in *United States v. Uribe* to hold that any argument that the Texas burglary statute was indivisible was foreclosed, because we held in *Uribe* that the Texas burglary statute was divisible. 838 F.3d 667 (5th Cir. 2016), *cert. denied*, — U.S. —, 137 S.Ct. 1359, 197 L.Ed.2d 542 (2017), *overruled by United States v. Herrold*, 883 F.3d 517, 529 (5th Cir. 2018) (en banc), *pets. for cert. filed* (U.S. April 18, 2018) (No. 17-1445), *and* (U.S. May 21, 2018) (No. 17-9127). The district court looked to the *Shepard*<sup>2</sup> documents provided by the

1. In his plea agreement, Wiese voluntarily and knowingly waived his right to contest his sentence in a post-conviction proceeding, including under 28 U.S.C. § 2255. However, because the Government must invoke an appeal waiver to enforce it and has not done so

here, Wiese's action is proper. See *United States v. Story*, 439 F.3d 226, 231 (5th Cir. 2006).

2. *Shepard v. United States*, 544 U.S. 13, 125 S.Ct. 1254, 161 L.Ed.2d 205 (2005).

Government to determine under which subsection of the Texas burglary statute Wiese had been convicted. The documents indicated that all of the ten burglaries submitted to the court had been committed with the intent required for generic burglary. Thus, the district court denied Wiese's § 2255 motion and further denied him a certificate of appealability, because "Wiese ha[d] failed to make a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right."

Wiese appealed the district court's decision and requested a certificate of appealability from this court. While his request was pending, we decided *Herrold* and held that the Texas burglary statute is indivisible, overruling *Uribe*. *Herrold*, 883 F.3d at 529, 541. We subsequently granted Wiese's certificate of appealability "as to the issue [of] whether he should receive relief on his claim that he no longer qualifies for sentencing under [ ] ACCA."

## II. Discussion

[3] We must initially determine whether the district court properly reached the merits of Wiese's motion.<sup>3</sup> The Government argues that the district court improperly ruled on the merits of Wiese's § 2255 motion, because it lacked jurisdiction to do so. If the district court did not have jurisdiction to reach the merits, naturally, we cannot reach the merits on appeal. *See United States v. Key*, 205 F.3d 773, 774 (5th Cir. 2000) (per curiam) ("If the district court lacked jurisdiction, '[o]ur jurisdiction extends not to the merits but merely for the purpose of correcting the error of the lower court in entertaining the

suit.'" (alteration in original) (quoting *N.Y. Life Ins. Co. v. Deshotel*, 142 F.3d 873, 882 (5th Cir. 1998))).

A second or successive habeas application must meet strict procedural requirements before a district court can properly reach the merits of the application. *See* §§ 2244(b), 2255(h); *Reyes-Requena v. United States*, 243 F.3d 893, 896–900 (5th Cir. 2001). There are two requirements, or "gates," which a prisoner making a second or successive habeas motion must pass to have it heard on the merits. *Reyes-Requena*, 243 F.3d at 899. First, we must grant the prisoner permission to file a second or successive motion, which requires the prisoner to make a "prima facie showing" that the motion relies on a new claim resulting from either (1) "a new rule of constitutional law, made retroactive to cases on collateral review by the Supreme Court, that was previously unavailable," or (2) newly discovered, clear and convincing evidence that but for the error no reasonable fact finder would have found the defendant guilty. *See* §§ 2244(b)(2), (3)(A), (3)(C), 2255(h). We granted such permission here, and the Government does not contest that Wiese made a prima facie showing as to a new, retroactive rule of constitutional law based on *Johnson*.<sup>4</sup>

Second, the prisoner must actually prove at the district court level that the relief he seeks relies either on a new, retroactive rule of constitutional law or on new evidence. *See* §§ 2244(b)(2), (4). If the motion does not, the district court must dismiss without reaching the merits. *See id.* We noted as much when we granted Wiese

3. We have appellate jurisdiction over the case under 28 U.S.C. § 2253, as a final order in a § 2255 proceeding on which Wiese was granted a certificate of appealability. We review a district court's ultimate decision whether to grant a second or successive habeas motion de novo as a question of law and factual findings for clear error. *See Hardemon*

*v. Quarterman*, 516 F.3d 272, 274 (5th Cir. 2008).

4. Wiese did not argue that his motion arises from new evidence, and thus, we did not grant permission to file a second or successive habeas motion on that basis and do not look to evidentiary considerations here.

permission to file his second habeas motion, stating that the grant was “tentative in that the district court *must dismiss the § 2255 motion without reaching the merits* if it determines that Wiese has failed to make the showing required to file such a motion” (emphasis added) (citing § 2244(b)(4) and *Reyes-Requena*, 243 F.3d at 899). The Government argues that Wiese did not meet this requirement because his claim does not rely on a new, retroactive rule of constitutional law.

[4] The dispositive question for jurisdictional purposes here is whether the sentencing court relied on the residual clause in making its sentencing determination—if it did, then *Johnson* creates a jurisdictional predicate for the district court, and for our court on appeal, to reach the merits of Wiese’s motion. We join the majority of our sister circuits in concluding that we must look to the law at the time of sentencing to determine whether a sentence was imposed under the enumerated offenses clause or the residual clause. See *United States v. Washington*, 890 F.3d 891, 897–98 (10th Cir. 2018); *Potter v. United States*, 887 F.3d 785, 788 (6th Cir. 2018); *Dimott v. United States*, 881 F.3d 232, 243 (1st Cir. 2018), *cert. denied sub nom. Casey v. United States*, (No. 17-1251) — U.S. —, 138 S.Ct. 2678, — L.Ed.2d —, 2018 WL 1243146 (U.S. June 25, 2018) ); *Beeman v. United States*, 871 F.3d 1215, 1221–22 (11th Cir. 2017).

That said, the circuits are not in accord on how we decide whether the original sentencing court relied on the residual clause, and we previously have not estab-

lished a standard to determine whether the sentencing court relied on the residual clause for *Johnson* purposes. See *United States v. Taylor*, 873 F.3d 476, 481 (5th Cir. 2017); compare *Washington*, 890 F.3d at 896 (applying a “more likely than not” standard and collecting cases that have determined the burden of proof), *Potter*, 887 F.3d at 788, *Dimott*, 881 F.3d at 240, and *Beeman*, 871 F.3d at 1221–22,<sup>5</sup> with *United States v. Geozos*, 870 F.3d 890, 896 (9th Cir. 2017) (“We therefore hold that, when it is unclear whether a sentencing court relied on the residual clause in finding that a defendant qualified as an armed career criminal, but it may have, the defendant’s § 2255 claim ‘relies on’ the constitutional rule announced in [*Johnson*].”), and *United States v. Winston*, 850 F.3d 677, 682 (4th Cir. 2017) (articulating that the same “may have” standard applies “regardless of any non-essential conclusions a court may or may not have articulated on the record in determining the defendant’s sentence”). We note that the “more likely than not” standard appears to be the more appropriate standard since it comports with the general civil standard for review and with the stringent and limited approach of AEDPA to successive habeas applications.

[5] But we need not conclusively decide that here because even under the standard Wiese argues is most favorable to him—the Fourth Circuit’s standard requiring a defendant to show that the sentencing court “may have” relied on the residual clause for a court to consider a collateral

5. As Wiese notes in his reply brief, *Dimott* and *Beeman* both were original habeas claims under § 2255, as opposed to second or successive applications under § 2244. See *Dimott*, 881 F.3d at 233–34; *Beeman*, 871 F.3d at 1218–19. Other courts have used some of the analysis from those cases to illuminate the successive issue. See *Washington*, 890 F.3d at 896. Moreover, as the standard to grant relief

under a second or successive habeas application is even more limited than that of an original habeas application, this distinction does not aid Wiese. Cf. *Gonzalez v. Crosby*, 545 U.S. 524, 529–30, 125 S.Ct. 2641, 162 L.Ed.2d 480 (2005) (noting the restrictions placed on second or successive habeas petitions due to AEDPA).

challenge based on *Johnson*, as articulated in *Winston*, 850 F.3d at 682—Wiese has not shown that the sentencing court “may have” relied on the residual clause.

[6] In determining potential reliance on the residual clause by the sentencing court, we may look to (1) the sentencing record for direct evidence of a sentence, *Beeman*, 871 F.3d at 1224 n.4, *see also Massey v. United States*, No. 17-1676, 895 F.3d 248, 251–52, 2018 WL 3370584, at \*3 (2d Cir. July 11, 2018), and (2) “the relevant background legal environment that existed at the time of [the defendant’s] sentencing’ and the [presentence report (“PSR”)] and other relevant materials before the district court,” *Washington*, 890 F.3d at 896 (citing *United States v. Snyder*, 871 F.3d 1122, 1128–30 (10th Cir. 2017), *cert. denied*, — U.S. —, 138 S.Ct. 1696, 200 L.Ed.2d 956 (2018)). Here, although the sentencing judge did not make any statement as to which clause was used for the sentencing enhancement, it is not “more likely than not” that the residual clause came into play. As well, there is nothing to indicate that the sentencing judge “may have” relied on the residual clause.

In 2003, when Wiese was convicted of being a felon in possession, all of § 30.02(a) was considered generic burglary under the enumerated offenses clause of ACCA. *See United States v. Silva*, 957 F.2d 157, 162 (5th Cir. 1992); *see also United States v. Stone*, 72 F. App’x 149, 150 (5th Cir. 2003) (per curiam) (citing *Silva*, 957 F.2d at 161–62).<sup>6</sup> That we held five years later that § 30.02(a)(3) is not generic burglary, *United States v. Constanter*, 544 F.3d 584, 587 (5th Cir. 2008) (per curiam), or that we held earlier this year that § 30.02(a) is indivisible, *Herrold*, 883 F.3d at 529, is of no consequence to determining the mindset of a sentencing

judge in 2003. Indeed, *Herrold*’s state law analysis that undergirded the divisibility determination was largely based upon a Texas Court of Appeals case decided five years after the sentencing in this case. *See Herrold*, 883 F.3d at 523, 525 (citing *Martinez v. State*, 269 S.W.3d 777 (Tex. App.—Austin 2008, no pet.)). Thus, at the time of sentencing, there was absolutely nothing to put the residual clause on the sentencing court’s radar in this case.

What is more, the PSR and other documents before the sentencing court clearly indicate that the sentencing judge would have relied on the enumerated offenses clause in sentencing Wiese. The PSR identifies “Burglary of a Habitation” as the offense which led to Wiese’s sentence enhancement, and the charges against Wiese in all ten instances for which the Government provided *Shepard* documents reflect that he was convicted with the requisite intent under Texas Penal Code § 30.02(a)(1). We have never held that subsection (a)(1), alone, does not constitute generic burglary; *Herrold* declined to reach that issue. *Herrold*, 883 F.3d at 541. Thus, the actual charges that Wiese was convicted of did not present a situation where the residual clause would have, in any way, been considered as a basis for ACCA sentencing enhancement.

[7, 8] Neither *Mathis* nor *Herrold* can save Wiese’s motion. *Mathis* did not state a new rule of constitutional law that has been made retroactive to cases on collateral review by the Supreme Court, *In re Lott*, 838 F.3d at 523, and neither did *Herrold*, a decision of this court. To the extent that Wiese attempts to use *Mathis* and *Herrold* to argue that, in light of *Johnson*, convictions under the enumerated offenses clause must also be reconsid-

6. Although *Stone* is not “controlling precedent,” it “may be [cited as] persuasive author-

ity.” *Ballard v. Burton*, 444 F.3d 391, 401 n.7 (5th Cir. 2006) (citing 5th Cir. R. 47.5.4).

ered, numerous circuit courts have expressly rejected that contention. *See Perez v. United States*, No. 16-17751, 730 F. App'x 804, 810–11, 2018 WL 1750555, at \*5 (11th Cir. Apr. 12, 2018) (per curiam), *pet. for cert. filed* (U.S. Jul. 10, 2018) (No. 18-5217); *Dimott*, 881 F.3d at 237; *United States v. Safford*, 707 F. App'x 571, 573 (10th Cir. 2017) (“What Defendant is attempting is to leverage the irrelevant *Johnson* decision to enable him to apply *Mathis* retroactively. We can admire the effort, but we cannot permit such a circumvention of habeas law.”), *pet. for cert. filed* (U.S. May 25, 2018) (No. 17-9170); *Holt v. United States*, 843 F.3d 720, 723–24 (7th Cir. 2016); *cf. Massey*, 895 F.3d at 252–53, 2018 WL 3370584, at \*4 (analogizing to *Dimott* to hold that similarly bootstrapping *Curtis Johnson v. United States*, 559 U.S. 133, 130 S.Ct. 1265, 176 L.Ed.2d 1 (2010), to *Johnson* to support a successive habeas motion “cannot be right” (quoting *Dimott*, 881 F.3d at 238)). Although we have not addressed this precise argument before today, we have implicitly rejected the contention as well. *See In re Lott*, 838 F.3d at 522–23 (rejecting the contentions that (1) *Johnson* applied to a sentencing enhancement based on the enumerated offenses clause, and (2) *Mathis* could apply to set forth a new, retroactive rule of constitutional law). We expressly reject it here. *Johnson* only applied to the residual clause and cannot be used to attack sentences under the enumerated offenses clause. If the district court did not rely on the residual clause, *Johnson* cannot be a jurisdictional predicate, regardless of subsequent changes in the law, if they are not new, retroactive rules of constitutional law by the Supreme Court.

In sum, Wiese has not established that the sentencing court “more likely than not” relied upon the residual clause. Even if we apply the less demanding “may have relied” standard, there is no evidence that the sentencing court “may have” relied on

the residual clause in sentencing Wiese. Merely a theoretical possibility cannot satisfy this standard. *Cf. United States v. Jeffries*, 822 F.3d 192, 193–94 (5th Cir. 2016) (holding that even if *Johnson* applied to the residual clause of United States Sentencing Guidelines (“U.S.S.G.”) § 4B1.2, a defendant sentenced as a career offender under U.S.S.G. § 4B1.1 would not have an arguable claim for relief because his crime was a specifically enumerated crime of violence in the Application Note), *cert. denied*, — U.S. —, 137 S.Ct. 1328, 197 L.Ed.2d 524 (2017). Therefore, the district court erred in reaching the merits of Wiese’s motion, and we likewise lack jurisdiction to do so.

### III. Conclusion

Because *Johnson* is not a jurisdictional predicate for Wiese’s § 2255 motion, the district court did not have jurisdiction to reach the merits of the motion. Consequently, we VACATE the district court’s judgment and DISMISS Wiese’s § 2255 motion for lack of jurisdiction.



### UNITED STATES of America, Plaintiff-Appellee

v.

**Jose Carmen Solis PONCE**, also known as **Jose Carmen Solis-Ponce**, also known as **Igancio Solis**, also known as **Jose Ponce Solis**, also known as **Jose Carmen Ponce Solis**, also known as **Jose Carmen Solis**, also known as **Jose S. Carmen**, also known as **Jose C. Solis**, also known as **Jose C. Ponce**, Defendant-Appellant



IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

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No. 17-50445

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff - Appellee

v.

EDDIE RAY WIESE, JR., also known as Eddie Ray Weise, Jr.,

Defendant - Appellant

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Appeal from the United States District Court  
for the Western District of Texas

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**ON PETITION FOR REHEARING**

Before DAVIS, HAYNES, and DUNCAN, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM:

IT IS ORDERED that the petition for rehearing is Denied.

ENTERED FOR THE COURT: 9-21-2018

/s/ Catharina Haynes

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UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE

**18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1)**

It shall be unlawful for any person who has been convicted in any court of, a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year ... to ship or transport in interstate or foreign commerce, or possess in or affecting commerce, any firearm or ammunition; or to receive any firearm or ammunition which has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce.

**18 U.S.C. § 924(a)(2)**

Whoever knowingly violates subsection (a)(6), (d), (g), (h), (i), (j), or (o) of section 922 shall be fined as provided in this title, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.

**18 U.S.C. § 924(e)**

- (1) In the case of a person who violates section 922(g) of this title and has three previous convictions by any court referred to in section 922(g)(1) of this title for a violent felony or a serious drug offense, or both, committed on occasions different from one another, such person shall be fined under this title and imprisoned not less than fifteen years, and, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the court shall not suspend the sentence of, or grant a probationary sentence to, such person with respect to the conviction under section 922(g).
- (2) As used in this subsection—
  - (A) the term “serious drug offense” means—
    - (i) an offense under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.), the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 951 et seq.), or chapter 705 of title 46, for which a maximum term of imprisonment of ten years or more is prescribed by law; or
    - (ii) an offense under State law, involving manufacturing, distributing, or possessing with intent to manufacture or distribute, a controlled substance (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C.

802)), for which a maximum term of imprisonment of ten years or more is prescribed by law;

(B) the term “violent felony” means any crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year, or any act of juvenile delinquency involving the use or carrying of a firearm, knife, or destructive device that would be punishable by imprisonment for such term if committed by an adult, that—

(i) has as an element the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against the person of another; or

(ii) is burglary, arson, or extortion, involves use of explosives, or otherwise involves conduct that presents a serious potential risk of physical injury to another; and

(C) the term “conviction” includes a finding that a person has committed an act of juvenile delinquency involving a violent felony.

**28 U.S.C. § 2244—Finality of determination.**

(a) No circuit or district judge shall be required to entertain an application for a writ of habeas corpus to inquire into the detention of a person pursuant to a judgment of a court of the United States if it appears that the legality of such detention has been determined by a judge or court of the United States on a prior application for a writ of habeas corpus, except as provided in section 2255.

(b)(1) A claim presented in a second or successive habeas corpus application under section 2254 that was presented in a prior application shall be dismissed.

(2) A claim presented in a second or successive habeas corpus application under section 2254 that was not presented in a prior application shall be dismissed unless—

(A) the applicant shows that the claim relies on a new rule of constitutional law, made retroactive to cases on

collateral review by the Supreme Court, that was previously unavailable; or

(B)(i) the factual predicate for the claim could not have been discovered previously through the exercise of due diligence; and

(ii) the facts underlying the claim, if proven and viewed in light of the evidence as a whole, would be sufficient to establish by clear and convincing evidence that, but for constitutional error, no reasonable factfinder would have found the applicant guilty of the underlying offense.

(3)(A) Before a second or successive application permitted by this section is filed in the district court, the applicant shall move in the appropriate court of appeals for an order authorizing the district court to consider the application.

(B) A motion in the court of appeals for an order authorizing the district court to consider a second or successive application shall be determined by a three-judge panel of the court of appeals.

(C) The court of appeals may authorize the filing of a second or successive application only if it determines that the application makes a prima facie showing that the application satisfies the requirements of this subsection.

(D) The court of appeals shall grant or deny the authorization to file a second or successive application not later than 30 days after the filing of the motion.

(E) The grant or denial of an authorization by a court of appeals to file a second or successive application shall not be appealable and shall not be the subject of a petition for rehearing or for a writ of certiorari.

(4) A district court shall dismiss any claim presented in a second or successive application that the court of appeals

has authorized to be filed unless the applicant shows that the claim satisfies the requirements of this section.

- (c) In a habeas corpus proceeding brought in behalf of a person in custody pursuant to the judgment of a State court, a prior judgment of the Supreme Court of the United States on an appeal or review by a writ of certiorari at the instance of the prisoner of the decision of such State court, shall be conclusive as to all issues of fact or law with respect to an asserted denial of a Federal right which constitutes ground for discharge in a habeas corpus proceeding, actually adjudicated by the Supreme Court therein, unless the applicant for the writ of habeas corpus shall plead and the court shall find the existence of a material and controlling fact which did not appear in the record of the proceeding in the Supreme Court and the court shall further find that the applicant for the writ of habeas corpus could not have caused such fact to appear in such record by the exercise of reasonable diligence.
- (d)(1) A 1-year period of limitation shall apply to an application for a writ of habeas corpus by a person in custody pursuant to the judgment of a State court. The limitation period shall run from the latest of—
  - (A) the date on which the judgment became final by the conclusion of direct review or the expiration of the time for seeking such review;
  - (B) the date on which the impediment to filing an application created by State action in violation of the Constitution or laws of the United States is removed, if the applicant was prevented from filing by such State action;
  - (C) the date on which the constitutional right asserted was initially recognized by the Supreme Court, if the right has been newly recognized by the Supreme Court and made retroactively applicable to cases on collateral review; or

- (D) the date on which the factual predicate of the claim or claims presented could have been discovered through the exercise of due diligence.
- (2) The time during which a properly filed application for State post-conviction or other collateral review with respect to the pertinent judgment or claim is pending shall not be counted toward any period of limitation under this subsection.

**28 U.S.C. § 2255—Federal custody; remedies on motion attacking sentence.**

- (a) A prisoner in custody under sentence of a court established by Act of Congress claiming the right to be released upon the ground that the sentence was imposed in violation of the Constitution or laws of the United States, or that the court was without jurisdiction to impose such sentence, or that the sentence was in excess of the maximum authorized by law, or is otherwise subject to collateral attack, may move the court which imposed the sentence to vacate, set aside or correct the sentence.
- (b) Unless the motion and the files and records of the case conclusively show that the prisoner is entitled to no relief, the court shall cause notice thereof to be served upon the United States attorney, grant a prompt hearing thereon, determine the issues and make findings of fact and conclusions of law with respect thereto. If the court finds that the judgment was rendered without jurisdiction, or that the sentence imposed was not authorized by law or otherwise open to collateral attack, or that there has been such a denial or infringement of the constitutional rights of the prisoner as to render the judgment vulnerable to collateral attack, the court shall vacate and set the judgment aside and shall discharge the prisoner or resentence him or grant a new trial or correct the sentence as may appear appropriate.

- (c) A court may entertain and determine such motion without requiring the production of the prisoner at the hearing.
- (d) An appeal may be taken to the court of appeals from the order entered on the motion as from a final judgment on application for a writ of habeas corpus.
- (e) An application for a writ of habeas corpus in behalf of a prisoner who is authorized to apply for relief by motion pursuant to this section, shall not be entertained if it appears that the applicant has failed to apply for relief, by motion, to the court which sentenced him, or that such court has denied him relief, unless it also appears that the remedy by motion is inadequate or ineffective to test the legality of his detention.
- (f) A 1-year period of limitation shall apply to a motion under this section. The limitation period shall run from the latest of—
  - (1) the date on which the judgment of conviction becomes final;
  - (2) the date on which the impediment to making a motion created by governmental action in violation of the Constitution or laws of the United States is removed, if the movant was prevented from making a motion by such governmental action;
  - (3) the date on which the right asserted was initially recognized by the Supreme Court, if that right has been newly recognized by the Supreme Court and made retroactively applicable to cases on collateral review; or
  - (4) the date on which the facts supporting the claim or claims presented could have been discovered through the exercise of due diligence.
- (g) Except as provided in section 408 of the Controlled Substances Act, in all proceedings brought under this section, and any subsequent proceedings on review, the court may appoint counsel, except as provided by a rule promulgated by the Supreme Court pursuant to statutory authority. Appointment of counsel under this section shall be governed by section 3006A of title 18.

- (h) A second or successive motion must be certified as provided in section 2244 by a panel of the appropriate court of appeals to contain—
- (1) newly discovered evidence that, if proven and viewed in light of the evidence as a whole, would be sufficient to establish by clear and convincing evidence that no reasonable factfinder would have found the movant guilty of the offense; or
  - (2) a new rule of constitutional law, made retroactive to cases on collateral review by the Supreme Court, that was previously unavailable.