

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**FILED**

NOV 14 2008

Clerk, U.S. District and  
Bankruptcy Courts

Kareemah Bell-Boston,

Plaintiff,

v.

Harriet Tubman Woman's 12-Hour  
Low Barrier Shelter,

Defendant.

Civil Action No.

**08 1962**

MEMORANDUM OPINION

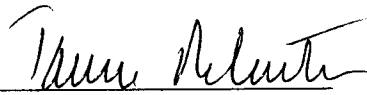
This matter is before the Court on plaintiff's *pro se* complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*. The Court will grant plaintiff's application and dismiss the complaint for lack of subject matter jurisdiction.

The subject matter jurisdiction of the federal district courts is limited and is set forth generally at 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1332. Under those statutes, federal jurisdiction is available only when a "federal question" is presented or the parties are of diverse citizenship and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000. A party seeking relief in the district court must at least plead facts that bring the suit within the court's jurisdiction. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a). Failure to plead such facts warrants dismissal of the action. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(h)(3).

Plaintiff, a homeless individual in Washington, D.C., sues a women's shelter in the District of Columbia. She seeks a trial by "a panel of judges" on whether her "living situation [is] d[y]sfunctional." Compl. at 1. The complaint does not allege a violation of either the Constitution or federal law, nor does it provide a basis for diversity jurisdiction inasmuch as plaintiff has not demanded any amount of monetary damages and the parties are not of diverse

citizenship. Accordingly, the complaint will be dismissed by separate Order issued contemporaneously.

Date: October 30, 2008

  
United States District Judge