

MAR - 3 2010

**Clerk, U.S. District and  
Bankruptcy Courts**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Shiron Brown,

Plaintiff,

V.

Marian Collins,

Defendant.

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Civil Action No. **10 0339**

## 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 District of Columbia resident, sues another District of Columbia resident. She alleges that the defendant is responsible for her missing social security check for the month of January 2010 and seeks \$707 in damages. The complaint neither presents a federal question nor provides a basis for diversity jurisdiction because the parties are not of diverse citizenship and the amount in controversy is well below the minimum jurisdictional amount. Accordingly, the complaint will be dismissed. A separate Order accompanies this Memorandum Opinion.

*Henry H. Kennedy, Jr.*  
United States District Judge

Date: February 19, 2010

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