

**FILED**

SEP 07 2010

Clerk, U.S. District and  
Bankruptcy Courts

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

JOHN T. PICKERING-GEORGE,

Plaintiff,

v.

ATTORNEY GENERAL  
OF THE UNITED STATES, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Civil Action No.

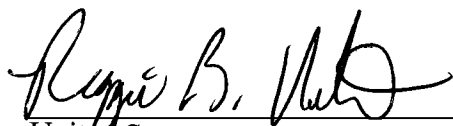
10-1507

**MEMORANDUM OPINION**

This matter comes before the Court on review of plaintiff's application to proceed *in forma pauperis* and *pro se* civil complaint. The Court will grant the application, and dismiss the complaint.

The Court has reviewed plaintiff's complaint, keeping in mind that complaints filed by *pro se* litigants are held to less stringent standards than those applied to formal pleadings drafted by lawyers. *See Haines v. Kerner*, 404 U.S. 519, 520 (1972). Even *pro se* litigants, however, must comply with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. *Jarrell v. Tisch*, 656 F. Supp. 237, 239 (D.D.C. 1987). Rule 8(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure requires that a complaint contain a short and plain statement of the grounds upon which the court's jurisdiction depends, a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief, and a demand for judgment for the relief the pleader seeks. Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a). The purpose of the minimum standard of Rule 8 is to give fair notice to the defendants of the claim being asserted, sufficient to prepare a responsive answer, to prepare an adequate defense and to determine whether the doctrine of *res judicata* applies. *Brown v. Califano*, 75 F.R.D. 497, 498 (D.D.C. 1977).

It appears that plaintiff has submitted documents to the Attorney General, among other federal government officials, and that he has not received a response to his submission. He now claims an entitlement to damages of \$45,000 plus an award of attorney fees and costs. The nature of the documents plaintiff submitted is not clear, and the complaint does not articulate a basis for plaintiff's demand for relief. Nor is the basis for the Court's jurisdiction stated in the complaint. For these reasons, the complaint will be dismissed without prejudice for its failure to comply with Rule 8(a). An Order consistent with this Memorandum Opinion is issued separately.

  
United States District Judge

DATE: August 31, 2010