

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**FILED**

NOV - 4 2010

Clerk, U.S. District & Bankruptcy  
Courts for the District of Columbia

Joan F. M. Malone,

Plaintiff,

v.

James A. Lang *et al.*,

Defendants.

Civil Action No.

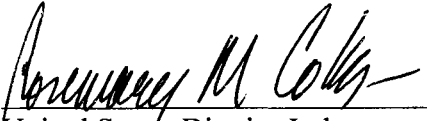
**10 1896**

MEMORANDUM OPINION

This matter is before the Court on its initial review of plaintiff's *pro se* complaint and application for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*. The Court will grant the *in forma pauperis* application and dismiss the case because the complaint fails to meet the minimal pleading requirements of Rule 8(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

*Pro se* litigants 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 complaints to contain "(1) a short and plain statement of the grounds for the court's jurisdiction [and] (2) a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief." Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a); see *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 129 S.Ct. 1937, 1950 (2009); *Ciralsky v. CIA*, 355 F.3d 661, 668-71 (D.C. Cir. 2004). The Rule 8 standard ensures that defendants receive fair notice of the claim being asserted so that they can prepare a responsive answer and an adequate defense and determine whether the doctrine of *res judicata* applies. *Brown v. Califano*, 75 F.R.D. 497, 498 (D.D.C. 1977).

Plaintiff, a District of Columbia resident, sues individuals in Maryland and New Jersey for “extortion, involuntary manslaughter resulting in the death of [her aunt].” Compl. at 1. The remainder of the complaint consists mostly of disjointed words and phrases and, thus, fails to provide any notice of a claim against the named defendants and the basis for federal court jurisdiction.<sup>1</sup> A separate Order of dismissal accompanies this Memorandum Opinion.

  
United States District Judge

Date: November 3, 2010

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<sup>1</sup> This complaint is one of five such submissions received by the Clerk’s Office on the same day. Each complaint names a different set of defendants but is otherwise the same. Moreover, the Court recently dismissed another of plaintiff’s complaints as frivolous. *Malone v. U.S. President Barack Obama*, No. 10-1826 (D.D.C. Oct. 28, 2010). Plaintiff is warned that her persistence in filing similar lawsuits may result in the Court imposing restrictions on her ability to file cases in this Court.