

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FILED

MAR 21 2011

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

Andrew Gill,

Plaintiff,

v.

The United States Department of
Education,

Defendant.

Civil Action No.

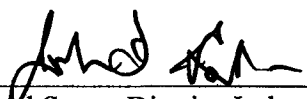
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MEMORANDUM OPINION

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, alleges that between 1987 and 2000, from age 5 to 18, he was denied an “equal opportunity for education.” Compl. at 1. He seems to attribute his plight to, among other things, having “lived at over 15 different residences . . . enrolled in 12 different schools . . . in approximately 10 different cities” *Id.* None of plaintiff’s rambling allegations implicates the sole defendant, the Department of Education, and the Court cannot fathom how he can cure this pleading defect. *See Gill v. United States*, Civ. Action No. 10-0588 (D.D.C., Apr. 14, 2010) (dismissing as frivolous plaintiff’s complaint alleging, *inter alia*, denial of a proper public education). Hence, the complaint will be dismissed with prejudice. A separate Order accompanies this Memorandum Opinion.



United States District Judge

Date: March 14, 2011