

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FILED
MAY 17 2011
Clerk, U.S. District & Bankruptcy
Courts for the District of Columbia

Delliccia Sherrell Honore-Richardson,

Plaintiff,

v.

Superior Court of the
District of Columbia *et al.*,

Defendants.

Civil Action No.

11 0917

MEMORANDUM OPINION

This matter is before the Court on review of the plaintiff's *pro se* complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*. The application will be granted and the complaint will be dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(h)(3) (requiring the court to dismiss an action "at any time" it determines that subject matter jurisdiction is wanting).

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).

Plaintiff is a District of Columbia resident suing the Superior Court of the District of Columbia and "family court counsel for child abuse and neglect." Compl. Caption. The complaint stems from family court proceedings involving the removal by social service providers of plaintiff's infant daughter from the Washington Hospital Center's nursery allegedly without

(N)

plaintiff's knowledge. *See generally* Compl. Plaintiff seeks this Court's assistance, but this Court lacks authority to review the decisions of the local court. *See* 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1332 (general jurisdictional provisions); *Fleming v. United States*, 847 F. Supp. 170, 172 (D.D.C. 1994), *cert. denied* 513 U.S. 1150 (1995). Because the complaint neither presents a federal question nor provides a basis for diversity jurisdiction, it will be dismissed. A separate Order accompanies this Memorandum Opinion.


United States District Judge

DATE: May 12, 2011