

FILED

NOV 16 2012

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

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Kareemah Bell-Boston,

Plaintiff,

v.

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library,

Defendant.

Civil Action No.

12 1857


MEMORANDUM OPINION

This matter is before the Court on the plaintiff's *pro se* complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*. The Court will grant the 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).

The plaintiff is a District of Columbia resident "looking to sue Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library [in the District of Columbia] for Defamation of Character." Statement of the

Case at 2. Since the complaint neither presents a federal question nor provides a basis for diversity jurisdiction, it will be dismissed.¹


United States District Judge

DATE: October 28, 2012

¹ A separate Order accompanies this Memorandum Opinion.