

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**FILED**

**FEB - 5 2013**

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

DALE B. ADAMS, )  
 )  
 Plaintiff, )  
 )  
 v. )  
 )  
 JOHN DOE, *et al.*, )  
 )  
 Defendants. )

Civil Action No.

**13 0157**

**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.

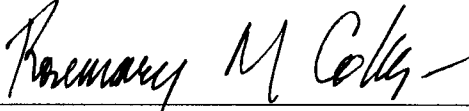
The Court has reviewed plaintiff's complaint, keeping in mind that complaints filed by *pro se* litigants are held to less stringent standards than those applied to formal pleadings drafted by lawyers. *See Haines v. Kerner*, 404 U.S. 519, 520 (1972). Even *pro se* litigants, however, must comply with 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).

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Plaintiff purports to bring a civil rights action under *Bivens v. Six Unknown Named Agents of Federal Bureau of Narcotics*, 403 U.S. 388 (1971), seeking a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, and monetary damages. Compl. at 1. The defendant is identified only as “John Doe,” *id.* ¶ 5, and plaintiff “has no evidence of who harmed him,” *id.* ¶ 13. Plaintiff “has no evidence of what a party did to him that he can present to the court,” *id.* ¶ 8, nor has evidence of when, where, why or how a party harmed him, *see id.* ¶¶ 9-12. Although plaintiff “can’t present his claims to the court,” he asserts that “his complaint is viable as stated.” *Id.* ¶ 14. Not so.

As drafted, the complaint fails to comply with Rule 8(a). The pleading contains neither a statement regarding this Court’s jurisdiction nor a short and plain statement showing that plaintiff is entitled to relief. Accordingly, the Court will dismiss the complaint. An Order consistent with this Memorandum Opinion is issued separately.

  
United States District Judge

DATE: 