

FILED

JAN 30 2014

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

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Melvin Brown,

Plaintiff,

v.

Sandra Hill *et al.*,

Defendants.

Civil Action No.

14-140

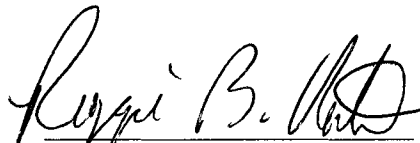
MEMORANDUM OPINION

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 suing eleven District of Columbia residents for monetary damages exceeding \$4.6 million. The complaint does not present a federal question, and it does not provide a basis for diversity jurisdiction because the parties are

not of diverse citizenship. Therefore, this case will be dismissed.¹ A separate Order accompanies this Memorandum Opinion.


United States District Judge

DATE: January 7, 2014

¹ Presumably, the plaintiff may seek redress in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.