

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FILED
AUG 14 2017

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

Jerome L. Grimes,)
)
 Plaintiff,)
)
 v.)
)
 Maryland Department of Health)
 and Mental Hygiene *et al.*,)
)
 Defendants.)

Civil Action No. 17-1387 (UNA)

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*, 556 U.S. 662, 678-79 (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 currently resides at a psychiatric hospital in Sykesville, Maryland. He has filed a complaint under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for, among other alleged wrongs, “conspiracy, mail tampering, invasion of privacy with terror intent, [and] intimidation.” Compl. Caption. Plaintiff seeks \$30,000 in monetary relief. *See id.* The complaint consists of random words and phrases that fail to provide any notice of a claim and the basis of federal court jurisdiction. A separate order of dismissal accompanies this Memorandum Opinion.

Date: August 11, 2017


United States District Judge