UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FILED
OCT 24 2018
Clerk, U.S. District and Bankruptcy Courts

JEROME L. GRIMES,	:	
Plaintiff,	:	
v.	:	Civil Action No. 18-2306 (UNA)
NATIONAL ENQUIRER, *et al.*,	:	
Defendants.	:	

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.

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 claims 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).

The Court has reviewed the complaint and finds that it utterly fails to meet the standard set forth in Rule 8(a). The pleading is incomprehensible, thus the Court identifies no viable legal claim. Absent a statement of cognizable claims showing plaintiff's entitlement to relief, the complaint must be dismissed. An Order consistent with this Memorandum Opinion is issued separately.

DATE: October 23, 2018

United States District Judge