

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

CHARLENE COLLINS LEE,

Plaintiff,

v.

UNITED STATES TREASURY
DEPARTMENT,

Defendant.

Criminal Action No. 22-1835 (RDM)

MEMORANDUM OPINION

Plaintiff Charlene Collins Lee, proceeding *pro se*, brought this action against the U.S. Treasury Department “in conjunction with the Secret Service” seeking, among other things, “several hearings to ward off any lingering federal and state employment stalkings.” Dkt. 1 at 1; Dkt. 1-2 at 1. For the following reasons, the Court will *sua sponte* dismiss the complaint without prejudice.

Complaints by *pro se* litigants are held to “less stringent standards than formal pleadings drafted by lawyers.” *Haines v. Kerner*, 404 U.S. 519, 520 (1972). Even a *pro se* litigant, 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 claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a). This requirement “ensures that the opposing party will receive ‘fair notice of what the . . . claim is and the grounds upon which it rests.’” *Jones v. Changsila*, 271 F. Supp. 3d 9, 21 (D.D.C. 2017) (quoting *Erickson v. Pardus*, 551 U.S. 89, 93 (2007)). “Where a complaint is insufficiently focused, it places an undue burden on the defendant to answer or

move[,] and it invites unnecessary delay and confusion in the proceedings.” *Achagzai v. Broad. Bd. of Governors*, 109 F. Supp. 3d 67, 71 (D.D.C. 2015). In addition, Rule 12(b)(6) entitles an opposing party to dismissal if the complaint “fail[s] to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6). “To survive a motion to dismiss, a complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to ‘state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face.’” *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009) (quoting *Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007)).

Plaintiff’s complaint fails to comply with Rules 8 and 12(b)(6) because it does not allege any facts that would allow the Court to discern the substance of Plaintiff’s claims or to determine whether, if true, her allegations would entitle her to relief. See *Brown v. Wash. Metro. Area Transit Auth.*, 164 F. Supp. 3d 33, 35 (D.D.C. 2016). The Court will, therefore, *sua sponte* dismiss the complaint without prejudice. See *Fontaine v. JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.*, 42 F. Supp. 3d 102, 109 n.3 (D.D.C. 2014).

A separate order will issue.

/s/ Randolph D. Moss
RANDOLPH D. MOSS
United States District Judge

Date: July 6, 2022