

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

MICHAEL L. WAGNER,

Plaintiff,

v.

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL,

Defendant.

)  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)

Civil Action No. 22-03597 (UNA)

**MEMORANDUM OPINION**

A *pro se* litigant's pleadings are held to less stringent standards than would be 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 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).

As drafted, the complaint fails to comply with Rule 8(a). Plaintiff alleges no facts, and his mysterious references to money laundering, spraying of crops in Columbia, and a D.C. Circuit decision, *see Sargeant v. Dixon*, 130 F.3d 1067, 1069 (D.C. Cir. 1997), shed no light on the claim

or claims plaintiff intends to bring. Further, plaintiff fails to demonstrate a jurisdictional basis for this Court to order defendant to permit medical doctors to prescribe recreational cocaine and pharmacists to dispense it. For these reasons, the Court will grant plaintiff's application to proceed *in forma pauperis* and dismiss the complaint without prejudice.

An Order is issued separately.

DATE: December 7, 2022

/s/  
AMY BERMAN JACKSON  
United States District Judge