UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DANNY JOE HIRSCHFIELD I,)
Plaintiff,)) Civil Action No. 23-02449 (UNA)
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA et al.,))
Defendants.)

MEMORANDUM OPINION

This action, brought *pro se*, is before the Court on review of Plaintiff's Complaint, Dkt. 1, and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*, Dkt. 2. The Court will grant the application and dismiss the case pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B) (requiring immediate dismissal of a case upon a determination that the complaint fails to state a claim on which relief may be granted).

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). Still, *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 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). It "does not require detailed factual allegations, but it demands more than an unadorned, the-defendant-unlawfully-harmed-me accusation." *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009) (internal quotation marks and citation omitted).

Plaintiff is a District of Columbia resident who has sued the federal government. In the

one-page complaint, Plaintiff alleges no discernible facts and demands no relief. He mentions

several federal laws, most notably 42 U.S.C. § 1983, which "permits suit against a 'person' acting

under color of State or District of Columbia law." Settles v. U.S. Parole Comm'n, 429 F.3d 1098,

1103 (D.C. Cir. 2005). By its terms, section 1983 does not apply to the federal government. See

id. at 1104-05. Therefore, this case will be dismissed by separate order.

DABNEY L. FRIEDRICH

United States District Judge

Date: September 22, 2023

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