UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

JULIANNE JONES,)
Plaintiff,))
V.) Civil Action No. 24-00740 (UNA)
JOE BIDEN President of the United States,)
Defendant.))

MEMORANDUM OPINION

Plaintiff, appearing *pro se*, has filed a complaint against President Joe Biden and an application to proceed *in forma pauperis*. The Court will grant the application and dismiss the case.

"Federal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction," possessing "only that power authorized by Constitution and statute." *Kokkonen v. Guardian Life Ins. Co. of Am.*, 511 U.S. 375, 377 (1994) (citations omitted). It is "presumed that a cause lies outside this limited jurisdiction, and the burden of establishing the contrary rests upon the party asserting jurisdiction." *Id.* A party seeking relief in the district court must at least plead facts that bring the suit within the court's jurisdiction. Failure to plead such facts warrants dismissal of the action. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a); 12(h)(3).

Plaintiff, a District of Columbia resident, asserts in relevant part that the government "must pay" her for her "research to <u>STOP</u> crimes, rapes and murders[.]" Compl. at 1 (emphasis in original). She seeks an "award" of \$100 billion. *Id*.

Under the Tucker Act, jurisdiction over a case against the United States "not sounding in tort" for the requested amount rests exclusively with the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. 28 U.S.C. § 1491; see Kidwell v. Department of Army, Bd. for Correction of Military Records, 56 F.3d 279,

283 (D.C. Cir. 1995) (noting that "the 'Little Tucker Act' gives district courts concurrent

jurisdiction with the Court of Federal Claims in most Tucker Act cases seeking less than \$10,000")

(citing 28 U.S.C. § 1346(a)(2)). Nevertheless, federal courts "are without power to entertain

claims otherwise within their jurisdiction if," as here, "they are so attenuated and unsubstantial as

to be absolutely devoid of merit, wholly insubstantial, [or] obviously frivolous[.]" Hagans v.

Lavine, 415 U.S. 528, 536–37 (1974) (internal quotation marks and citations omitted). Therefore,

this case will appropriately be dismissed. See 28 U.S.C. § 1631 (requiring "[t]ransfer to cure want

of jurisdiction" only "if it is in the interest of justice"). A separate order accompanies this opinion.

TANYA S. CHUTKAN

Date: April 15, 2024 United States District Judge

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