

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

_____)	
ADRIAN WENDY)	
DEVILLE- NAKDIMEN,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	Civil Action No. 1:22-cv-03144 (UNA)
)	
PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN, <i>et al.</i> ,)	
)	
Defendants.)	
_____)	

MEMORANDUM OPINION

Currently before the court is plaintiff’s *pro se* complaint, ECF No. 1, and application for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* (“IFP”), ECF No. 2. For the reasons explained herein, the court will grant plaintiff’s IFP application and dismiss the complaint.

Pro se litigants must comply with the Rules of Civil Procedure. Rule 8(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure requires complaints to contain “(1) a short and plain statement of the grounds for the court’s jurisdiction [and] (2) a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a); *see Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678-79 (2009); *Ciralsky v. CIA*, 355 F.3d 661, 668-71 (D.C. Cir. 2004). The Rule 8 standard ensures that defendants receive fair notice of the claim being asserted so that they can prepare a responsive answer and an adequate defense and determine whether the doctrine of *res judicata* applies. *Brown v. Califano*, 75 F.R.D. 497, 498 (D.D.C. 1977). When a pleading “contains an untidy assortment of claims that are neither plainly nor concisely stated, nor meaningfully distinguished from bold conclusions, sharp harangues and personal comments[,]” it does not fulfill the requirements of

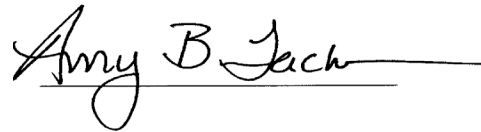
Rule 8. *Jiggetts v. D.C.*, 319 F.R.D. 408, 413 (D.D.C. 2017), *aff'd sub nom. Cooper v. D.C.*, No. 17-7021, 2017 WL 5664737 (D.C. Cir. Nov. 1, 2017).

The instant complaint falls within this category. Plaintiff, a resident of Atlanta Georgia, sues former Presidents Reagan and Johnson, as well as unnamed “family + friend + employees.” From there, no cognizable facts or claims can be discerned. As presented, neither the court nor defendants can reasonably be expected to identify plaintiff’s claims.

Plaintiff has also failed to set forth a basis for this court’s subject matter jurisdiction or his entitlement to any relief. The subject matter jurisdiction of the federal district courts is limited and is set forth generally at 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1332. Under those statutes, federal jurisdiction is available only when a “federal question” is presented, or the parties are of diverse citizenship and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000. A party seeking relief in the district court must at least plead facts that bring the suit within the court's jurisdiction. *See Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a)*. Failure to plead such facts warrants dismissal of the action. *See Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(h)(3)*.

Plaintiff fails to provide any basis for diversity jurisdiction. He is located in Georgia, but he does not provide addresses for any of the named defendants, and many of the intended defendants are not even identified by name, *see D.C. LCvR 5.1(c)(1)*. He merely states that “USA addresses on file of government USA 1975-2022[.]” It is a “well-established rule” that, for an action to proceed in diversity, the citizenship requirement must be “assessed at the time the action is filed.” *Freeport-McMoRan, Inc. v. K N Energy, Inc.*, 498 U.S. 426, 428 (1991). To that end, “the citizenship of every party to the action must be distinctly alleged [in the complaint] and cannot be established presumptively or by mere inference.” *Meng v. Schwartz*, 305 F. Supp. 2d 49, 55 (D.D.C. 2004) (citation omitted). Here, the citizenship of the parties is entirely unclear. And plaintiff abjectly fails to state any federal question.

For all of these reasons, this case is dismissed without prejudice. A separate order accompanies this memorandum opinion.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy B. Jackson" with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

AMY BERMAN JACKSON
United States District Judge

Date: December 13, 2022