

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
MISSOURI, EASTERN DIVISION

Amanda Jolee Oliver v. United States of America, et al.

Oliver · No. 1:25-cv-182-ACL · Decided February 13, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri grants Amanda Jolee Oliver leave to proceed in forma pauperis but dismisses her complaint without prejudice as frivolous under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B). The court denies her motion to appoint counsel as moot and certifies that an appeal would not be taken in good faith.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, Eastern Division
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, Eastern Division
DECIDED	February 13, 2026
DOCKET	1:25-cv-182-ACL
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	A self-represented plaintiff filed a civil action against the United States and Missouri, moved to proceed in forma pauperis, and moved for appointment of counsel. The district court granted in forma pauperis status, conducted the required screening, dismissed the action without prejudice as frivolous, denied appointment of counsel as moot, and certified that an appeal would not be taken in good faith.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2), an in forma pauperis complaint must be dismissed if it is frivolous. A complaint is frivolous when it lacks an arguable basis in law or fact, including when its factual allegations are clearly baseless, fanciful, fantastic, delusional, irrational, or wholly incredible. Pro se pleadings are liberally construed, but they must still allege facts that state a legally cognizable claim.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished federal district court memorandum and order; generally nonprecedential.

TOPICS

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pleadings

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PRACTICE AREAS

civil procedure

civil rights

in forma pauperis proceedings

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QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the plaintiff qualified to proceed in forma pauperis based on the financial information submitted.
2. Whether the complaint was frivolous and therefore subject to dismissal under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B) (i).
3. Whether the complaint's defects could be remedied through amendment.
4. Whether appointment of counsel should be denied as moot after dismissal.
5. Whether the court should certify that an appeal would not be taken in good faith.

HOLDINGS

1. The plaintiff was unable to pay the filing fee and was entitled to proceed in forma pauperis with the filing fee waived.
2. The complaint was frivolous because its factual allegations were fanciful, fantastic, delusional, irrational, and wholly incredible, and it lacked an arguable basis in law or fact.
3. Dismissal without prejudice was appropriate because the defects in the complaint could not be remedied through amendment.
4. The motion to appoint counsel was denied as moot because the action was dismissed.
5. An appeal from the dismissal would not be taken in good faith.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The term frivolous “embraces not only the inarguable legal conclusion, but also the fanciful factual allegation.””

“These allegations are fanciful, fantastic, delusional, and rise to the level of the irrational or wholly incredible.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiff alleged that the federal and Missouri governments had systematically abused, exploited, and discriminated against her throughout her life. Her allegations included claims that government actors drugged her, removed her hair, monitored her home and social-media broadcasts, altered her Bibles, caused abuse by various private individuals, and were responsible for abuses involving employers, churches, medical personnel, jail inmates, an ex-husband, police, and men encountered on Christian dating sites. She sought \$20 million in damages.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff filed the complaint on October 29, 2025. After reviewing her financial information, the court granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis and screened the complaint under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2). The court concluded that the allegations were fanciful, fantastic, delusional, and wholly incredible, that the defects could not be cured by amendment, and dismissed the action without prejudice.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- Neitzke v. Williams, 490 U.S. 319, 325, 327-28 (1989)
- Denton v. Hernandez, 504 U.S. 25, 32-33 (1992)
- Solomon v. Petray, 795 F.3d 777, 787 (8th Cir. 2015)
- Stone v. Harry, 364 F.3d 912, 914-15 (8th Cir. 2004)
- McNeil v. United States, 508 U.S. 106, 113 (1993)
- Higgins v. Steele, 195 F.2d 366, 369 (8th Cir. 1952)