

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Williams v. Medstar Health Inc.

Williams v. Medstar Health Inc. · No. 1:25-cv-03242 (UNA) · Decided December 11, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the District of Columbia grants the pro se plaintiff’s application to proceed in forma pauperis but dismisses the case without prejudice. The court concludes that the plaintiff cannot represent her business, the complaint violates Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a), and the allegations fail to establish federal-question or diversity jurisdiction.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of Columbia
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Ana C. Reyes
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the District of Columbia
DECIDED	December 11, 2025
DOCKET	1:25-cv-03242 (UNA)
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The district court reviewed a pro se complaint and an application to proceed in forma pauperis at the outset of the case.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court conducted an initial review of the complaint and IFP application and applied Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a) and the requirement that subject matter jurisdiction be established.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	published
PARTIES	Kawana J. Williams v. Medstar Health Inc.

TOPICS

- pleadings
- subject matter jurisdiction
- civil procedure
- commercial litigation
- health law

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- health law
- commercial litigation

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Plaintiff could prosecute claims on behalf of Well-Konnect, LLC without being a licensed attorney.
2. Whether an artificial entity could proceed in forma pauperis under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(1).
3. Whether the complaint complied with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a).
4. Whether the complaint established federal-question or diversity subject matter jurisdiction.

HOLDINGS

1. A nonlawyer may not represent a business entity in federal court.
2. The IFP statute applies only to individuals or natural persons, not artificial entities.
3. The complaint failed to satisfy Rule 8(a) because it was not short and plain and did not provide sufficiently clear factual allegations identifying claims for relief.
4. The complaint did not establish subject matter jurisdiction because it presented no cognizable federal question and did not establish complete diversity of citizenship.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“In all courts of the United States the parties may plead and conduct their own cases personally or by counsel[,] and Plaintiff is not licensed counsel”

“The Court finds that Plaintiff’s Complaint fails to comply with Federal Rule 8(a), which requires such pleadings 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.””

“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.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiff, a District of Columbia resident, sued MedStar Health, Inc., and its chief counsel, asserting claims on behalf of her company, Well-Konnect, LLC. The allegations concerned an alleged physician-services agreement, MedStar's alleged failure to recognize the agreement and reimburse Well-Konnect for primary-care services, and additional accusations including assault, gang stalking, voyeurism, harassment, surveillance, and cyber crimes. The complaint included nearly 200 pages of unexplained exhibits and sought more than \$500 million in damages and equitable relief.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff filed a pro se complaint against MedStar Health, Inc., and its chief counsel, together with an application to proceed in forma pauperis. The court granted the IFP application but dismissed the case without prejudice because Plaintiff could not represent her company, the company could not proceed IFP, the complaint violated Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a), and subject matter jurisdiction was not established.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- Greater Southeast Cmty. Hosp. Found., Inc. v. Potter, 586 F.3d 1, 4 (D.C. Cir. 2009)
- Rowland v. Cal. Men's Colony, 506 U.S. 194, 201-07 (1993)
- Franklin v. Vilsack, No. 11-0206 (D.D.C. Apr. 15, 2011)
- Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 556 U.S. 662, 678-79 (2009)
- Ciralsky v. CIA, 355 F.3d 661, 668-71 (D.C. Cir. 2004)
- Spence v. U.S. Dep't of Vet. Affairs, No. 19-cv-1947, 2022 WL 3354726, at *12 (D.D.C. Aug. 12, 2022)
- Jiggetts v. Dist. of Columbia, 319 F.R.D. 408, 413 (D.D.C. 2017)
- Cooper v. Dist. of Columbia, No. 17-7021, 2017 WL 5664737 (D.C. Cir. Nov. 1, 2017)
- Johnson v. Robinson, 576 F.3d 522, 522 (D.C. Cir. 2009) (per curiam)
- Bush v. Butler, 521 F. Supp. 2d 63, 71 (D.D.C. 2007)
- Owen Equip. & Erection Co. v. Kroger, 437 U.S. 365, 373-74 (1978)

OPINION

PER CURIAM.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA KAWANA J. WILLIAMS,)) Plaintiff,)) v.) Civil Action No. 1:25-cv-03242 (UNA)) MEDSTAR HEALTH INC.,)) Defendant.) MEMORANDUM OPINION This matter is before the Court on its review of Plaintiff's pro se Complaint ("Compl."), ECF No. 1, and Application for Leave to Proceed in forma pauperis ("IFP"), ECF No. 2.

The Court grants Plaintiff's IFP application, and for the reasons explained below, it dismisses this case without prejudice. Plaintiff, a resident of the District, sues Defendant MedStar Health, Inc., and its chief counsel. See Compl. at 1–4. She brings this action on behalf of her business, see *id.* at 3, which she may not do, because "[i]n all courts of the United States the parties may plead and conduct their own cases personally or by counsel[.]" and Plaintiff is not licensed counsel, see 28 U.S.C. § 1654; see also *Greater Southeast Cmty.*

Hosp. Found., Inc. v. Potter, 586 F.3d 1, 4 (D.C. Cir. 2009) (citing *Rowland v. Cal. Men's Colony*, 506 U.S. 194, 201–02 (1993)). Moreover, a non- individual cannot proceed under the IFP statute, 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(1); the Supreme Court has interpreted that provision as applicable "only to individuals" or "natural persons," not "artificial entities." *Rowland*, 506 U.S. at 201–07 (1993); see *Franklin v. Vilsack*, No. 11–0206 (D.D.C.

Apr. 15, 2011) (denying IFP status to plaintiff in his capacity as an officer of a corporation which, as an artificial entity, cannot proceed IFP). The allegations themselves fare no better. Plaintiff's

Complaint includes nearly 200 pages of unexplained exhibits, contravening D.C. Local Civil Rule 5.1(e), (g). Plaintiff appears to take issue with MedStar's alleged failure to recognize an agreement for physician services, purportedly executed between MedStar and her company, Well-Konnect, LLC, and MedStar's alleged refusal to reimburse her for primary care services rendered by Well-Konnect.

See Compl. at 3, 9–10, 15, 38–39, 45–47. Plaintiff asserts that MedStar's alleged actions violate countless federal civil and criminal statutes, and provisions of the D.C. Code, see *id.* at 7–8, 10–17, 19–21, 25–26, 29, but she fails to flesh out any of the supporting facts or details to meet the elements to support any of these intended claims, where a private cause of action is even available.

She also accuses a Medstar facility employee of assaulting her, see *id.* at 7, 10, 24, 27–28, and MedStar of “gang stalking,” see *id.* at 10, 24, 26, 28, “voyeurism,” *id.* at 21, “affiliat[ing] with extremist networks,” see *id.* at 11, “harassment and intimidation,” *id.* at 26, “unauthorized surveillance and biometric tracking,” *id.* at 13, and other “cyber crimes,” see *id.* at 10–11, 24, 27–28.

She demands upwards of \$500 million in damages and assorted equitable relief. See *id.* at 13–16, 17–18. The Court finds that Plaintiff's Complaint fails to comply with Federal Rule 8(a), which requires such pleadings 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). Plaintiff's Complaint is not short or plain. Neither the Court nor Defendants can reasonably be expected to identify Plaintiff's intended claims. When, as here, allegations are presented in a “disorganized and convoluted” manner, dismissal is often appropriate for that reason alone.

See *Spence v. U.S. Dep't of Vet. Affairs*, No. 19-cv-1947, 2022 WL 3354726, at *12 (D.D.C. Aug. 12, 2022), *aff'd*, 109 F.4th 531 (D.C. Cir. 2024), cert. denied, 145 S. Ct. 594 (2024). In other words, a complaint that “contains an untidy assortment of claims that are neither plainly nor concisely stated, nor meaningfully distinguished from bold conclusions, sharp harangues and personal comments[,]” does not fulfill the requirements of Rule 8.

Jiggetts v. Dist. of Columbia, 319 F.R.D. 408, 413 (D.D.C. 2017), *aff'd sub nom. Cooper v. Dist. of Columbia*, No. 17-7021, 2017 WL 5664737 (D.C. Cir. Nov. 1, 2017). Nor has Plaintiff established this Court's subject matter jurisdiction. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(h)(3). 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.

See 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1332. First, plaintiff has broadly cited to federal laws, but has failed to state a cognizable federal question, and the Court does not independently discern any basis for federal question jurisdiction from any of the allegations presented. See *Johnson v. Robinson*, 576 F.3d 522, 522 (D.C. Cir. 2009) (per curiam) (“[F]ederal court jurisdiction must affirmatively appear clearly and distinctly.”) (cleaned up).

Second, Plaintiff has failed to establish diversity of citizenship. See 28 U.S.C. § 1332. Both Plaintiff and Defendant MedStar are located in the District, thus defeating complete diversity. See *Bush v. Butler*, 521 F. Supp. 2d 63, 71 (D.D.C. 2007) (“For jurisdiction to exist under 28 U.S.C. § 1332, there must be complete diversity between the parties, which is to say that the plaintiff may not be a citizen of the same state as any defendant.” (citing *Owen Equip. & Erection Co. v. Kroger*, 437 U.S. 365, 373–74 (1978))).

For all of these reasons, the case is dismissed without prejudice. A separate Order accompanies this Memorandum Opinion. Date: December 11, 2025 /s/_____ ANA C. REYES United States District Judge