

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Moon v. Harris

Moon · No. Civil Action No. 1:26-cv-00906 (UNA) · Decided May 8, 2026

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 complaint as frivolous under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B) (i). The court finds the 235-page complaint largely incomprehensible and based on irrational and wholly incredible allegations of a broad criminal conspiracy and other wrongdoing.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of Columbia
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Christopher R. Cooper
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the District of Columbia
DECIDED	May 8, 2026
DOCKET	Civil Action No. 1:26-cv-00906 (UNA)
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	On initial review of a pro se complaint and an application to proceed in forma pauperis, the district court granted the application and dismissed the action as frivolous under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(i).
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Initial screening review of an in forma pauperis complaint under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(i); allegations may be dismissed as frivolous when they lack an arguable basis in law or fact or are irrational, wholly incredible, or fanciful.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published district court memorandum opinion
PARTIES	Adrian Damico Moon v. Daronte L. Harris

TOPICS

- subject matter jurisdiction
- pleadings
- civil procedure
- motions to dismiss

PRACTICE AREAS

- Federal civil procedure
- In forma pauperis litigation
- Subject matter jurisdiction

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the complaint was frivolous and malicious or otherwise so insubstantial that it could not support federal subject matter jurisdiction.
2. Whether the action should be dismissed during initial review under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(i).

HOLDINGS

1. A complaint is frivolous when it lacks an arguable basis in law or fact, including when its factual allegations are irrational, wholly incredible, or fanciful; a complaint that is plainly abusive of the judicial process may also be treated as malicious. Plaintiff's complaint met both descriptions.
2. Federal courts lack power to entertain claims that are otherwise within their jurisdiction when they are so attenuated and unsubstantial as to be absolutely devoid of merit.
3. The complaint and action were dismissed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(i).

KEY QUOTATIONS

“A complaint that lacks “an arguable basis either in law or in fact” is frivolous”

“a “complaint plainly abusive of the judicial process is properly typed malicious””

“the federal courts are without power to entertain claims otherwise within their jurisdiction if they are “so attenuated and unsubstantial as to be absolutely devoid of merit.””

“a court shall dismiss a complaint as frivolous “when the facts alleged rise to the level of the irrational or the wholly incredible””

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Plaintiff filed a 235-page, largely incomprehensible pro se complaint against a single defendant. He alleged that the defendant and numerous others, including judges, participated in an evil and criminal conspiracy to dismiss his lawsuits, enter injunctions against him, disregard his submissions, and rule against him, along with allegations of attempted murder, stalking, domestic terrorism, theft, mayhem, and other misconduct. The pleading also contained sweeping religious proclamations.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff filed a 235-page pro se complaint and an application to proceed in forma pauperis. The district court granted in forma pauperis status, reviewed the complaint, determined that it was frivolous, malicious, and abusive of the judicial process, and dismissed the case.

DISPOSITION

dismissed

CASES CITED

- Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009)

- Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly, 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007)
- Neitzke v. Williams, 490 U.S. 319, 325 (1989)
- Crisafi v. Holland, 655 F.2d 1305, 1307-09 (D.C. Cir. 1981)
- Hagans v. Lavine, 415 U.S. 528, 536-37 (1974)
- Newburyport Water Co. v. Newburyport, 193 U.S. 561, 579 (1904)
- Tooley v. Napolitano, 586 F.3d 1006, 1010 (D.C. Cir. 2009)
- Denton v. Hernandez, 504 U.S. 25, 33 (1992)
- Ibrahim v. Dist. of Columbia, Nos. 93-0002, Civ. A. 93-0060, 1993 WL 30814, at *1 (D.D.C. Jan. 29, 1993)
- Ibrahim v. D.C. Dep't of Corrections, No. 93-7029, 1993 WL 328110 (D.C. Cir. July 7, 1993) (per curiam)

OPINION

Moon v. Harris

PER CURIAM.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ADRIAN DAMICO MOON,)

) Plaintiff,)) v.) Civil Action No. 1:26-cv-00906 (UNA)))

DARONTE L. HARRIS,)

) Defendant.)

MEMORANDUM OPINION

This matter is before the court on its initial review of Plaintiff's pro se Complaint, ECF No. 1, and Application for Leave to Proceed in forma pauperis, ECF No. 2. The court grants the in forma pauperis Application, and for the reasons discussed below, dismisses this matter as frivolous. Plaintiff's 235-page Complaint is rambling and largely incomprehensible. He sues a single Defendant, alleging that he, and many others, including several judges, have engaged in an "evil, vicious, heinous" criminal conspiracy against him to dismiss his lawsuits, enter injunctions against him, ignore his submissions, and rule unfavorably, and that they have also allegedly committed myriad other crimes and wrongdoing, including, but not limited to, attempted murder, stalking, domestic terrorism, theft, mayhem, and other bad acts that have caused him to fear for his safety and well-being. The remainder of the pleading consists of sweeping religious proclamations. "A complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to 'state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face.'" *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009) (quoting *Bell Atl. Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007)). A complaint that lacks "an arguable basis either in law or in fact" is frivolous, *Neitzke v. Williams*, 490 U.S. 319, 325 (1989), and a "complaint plainly abusive of the judicial process is properly typed malicious," *Crisafi v. Holland*, 655 F.2d 1305, 1309 (D.C. Cir. 1981). The instant Complaint falls into both categories; accordingly, the court cannot exercise subject matter jurisdiction over it. See *Hagans v. Lavine*, 415 U.S. 528, 536-37 (1974) ("Over the years, this Court has repeatedly held that the federal courts are without power

to entertain claims otherwise within their jurisdiction if they are ‘so attenuated and unsubstantial as to be absolutely devoid of merit.’”) (quoting *Newburyport Water Co. v. Newburyport*, 193 U.S. 561, 579 (1904)); *Tooley v. Napolitano*, 586 F.3d 1006, 1010 (D.C. Cir. 2009) (examining cases dismissed “for patent insubstantiality,” including where the plaintiff allegedly “was subjected to a campaign of surveillance and harassment.”). As here, a court shall dismiss a complaint as frivolous “when the facts alleged rise to the level of the irrational or the wholly incredible,” *Denton v. Hernandez*, 504 U.S. 25, 33 (1992), or “postulat[e] events and circumstances of a wholly fanciful kind,” *Crisafi*, 655 F.2d at 1307–08 (D.C. Cir. 1981); see also *Ibrahim v. Dist. of Columbia*, Nos. 93–0002, Civ. A. 93–0060, 1993 WL 30814, at *1 (D.D.C. Jan. 29, 1993) (finding the plaintiff’s “assertion that . . . matters were decided against him because the Courts conspired” against him was frivolous where the “facts only support the notion that the Judges in . . . those cases diligently worked on his complaints [but] decided them against him”), appeal dismissed sub nom. *Ibrahim v. D.C. Dep’t of Corrections*, No. 93-7029, 1993 WL 328110 (D.C. Cir. July 7, 1993) (per curiam) (finding no basis for appeal). For all of the foregoing reasons, the Complaint, ECF No. 1, and this case, are dismissed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(i). A separate Order accompanies this Memorandum Opinion.

DATE: May 8, 2026 /s/ CHRISTOPHER R. COOPER

United States District Judge