

United States Court of Appeals  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

No. 18-5137

September Term, 2017

1:18-cv-00281-UNA

Filed On: September 14, 2018

Cathy L. Toole,

Appellant

v.

Robert Wilkie, Department of Veterans  
Affairs, et al.,

Appellees

**ON APPEAL FROM THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**BEFORE:** Griffith and Katsas, Circuit Judges, and Sentelle,  
Senior Circuit Judge

**J U D G M E N T**

This appeal was considered on the record from the United States District Court for the District of Columbia and on the brief and supplemental brief filed by appellant. See Fed. R. App. P. 34(a)(2); D.C. Cir. Rule 34(j). It is

**ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** that the order of the district court filed April 12, 2018, be affirmed. The district court did not abuse its discretion in ruling that appellant failed to comply with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a). See *Ciralsky v. CIA*, 355 F.3d 661, 668-69 (D.C. Cir. 2004). Rule 8 requires “a short and plain statement of the grounds for the court’s jurisdiction” and “a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a). The underlying complaint failed to satisfy that minimal standard. Because appellant’s complaint was dismissed without prejudice, she may file a new complaint that cures the deficiencies identified by the district court.

Pursuant to D.C. Circuit Rule 36, this disposition will not be published. The Clerk is directed to withhold issuance of the mandate herein until seven days after resolution of any timely petition for rehearing or petition for rehearing en banc. See Fed. R. App. P. 41(b); D.C. Cir. Rule 41.

**Per Curiam**

**FOR THE COURT:**  
Mark J. Langer, Clerk

BY: /s/  
Ken Meadows  
Deputy Clerk