

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

FILED
U.S. DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
2018 APR -4 AM 11:58

CLERK'S OFFICE
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Civil Action No. RDB-18-885

RONALD E. DIXON, JR., *
Petitioner, *
v. *
STATE OF MARYLAND, *et al.*, *
Respondents. *

ORDER

On March 27, 2018, Ronald E. Dixon, Jr. filed a fee-paid, self-represented notice of removal and other documents pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1443, 1446(b), 1331, 1343 and 1367, as well as the Federal Consumer Credit Protection Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1601, *et seq.*, and the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729, *et seq.* ECF No. 1. Based upon a review of Dixon’s filings, it appears that he is seeking to remove a domestic relations case and a criminal case from the Circuit Court for Frederick County, Maryland to this Court because of “various systematic deprivations of fundamental rights guaranteed by the Federal Constitution, and/or by federal law, and which deprivations are civil violations of 42 U.S.C. § 1983, and . . . criminal violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 241 and 242.” ECF No. 1, p. 4.

Dixon primarily alleges that “Respondents collectively conspired to unconstitutionally remove [his] pre-existing and equally shared parental rights” without proving by clear and convincing evidence that he was unfit, “so as to initiate and grow false and fraudulently-obtained liens against [him] in the disguise of so-called ‘child support.’” ECF No. 1, p. 5. Dixon contends that the removal is timely pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b), and avers that there are three independent causes of action for direct removal under 28 U.S.C. § 1443. *Id.* at pp. 5, 22.

Within his numerous relief requests, Dixon seeks the removal of his state cases to this Court, declaratory and injunctive relief, a trial by jury, and monetary damages. *Id.* at pp. 29-30.

Dixon's case may not proceed in this Court for a number of reasons. First, it involves matters of family law. *See Moore v. Sims*, 442 U.S. 415, 435 (1979). Such issues have traditionally been reserved to the state or municipal court systems with their expertise and professional support staff. Under the domestic relations exception to federal jurisdiction, federal courts do not have the power to intervene with regard to child custody or visitation decrees. *See Ankenbrandt v. Richards*, 504 U.S. 689, 701-05 (1992). Second, the Court is without jurisdiction to review the thrust of the Complaint allegations. The action is based upon the history of prior state court custody judgments and other related matters. Under the *Rooker-Feldman* doctrine,¹ a federal court does not have jurisdiction to overturn a state court judgment, even when the federal complaint raises allegations that the state court judgment violates a claimant's constitutional or federal statutory rights. In creating this jurisdiction bar, the Supreme Court reasoned that because federal district courts have only original jurisdiction, they lack appellate jurisdiction to review state court judgments.² In effect, the *Rooker-Feldman* doctrine precludes federal court action "brought by state-court losers complaining of injuries caused by state-court judgments rendered before the district court proceedings commenced." *Exxon Mobil Corp. v. Saudi Basic Indus. Corp.*, 544 U.S. 280, 284 (2005).

Federal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction, and the Court lacks subject matter jurisdiction over this case. "If at any time before final judgment it appears that the district court lacks subject matter jurisdiction, the case shall be remanded." 28 U.S.C. § 1447(c). Therefore,

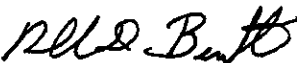
¹ *See Rooker v. Fidelity Trust Co.*, 263 U.S. 413, 415-16 (1923) and *District of Columbia Court of Appeals v. Feldman*, 460 U.S. 462, 482-86 (1983).

² The Court explained that only the Supreme Court has federal court appellate jurisdiction over state court judgments. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1257.

this case shall be remanded for improper removal.

Accordingly, it is this 4th day of April, 2018, by the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, hereby ORDERED that:

1. The case SHALL BE SUMMARILY REMANDED to the Circuit Court for Frederick County (Case Nos. C-10-CR-18-000024 and 10-C-13-003130);
2. The Motion to Reissue Summons (ECF No. 6) IS DENIED without prejudice;
3. The Motion for Issuance of Preliminary Relief (ECF No. 11) IS DENIED as moot;
4. The Clerk SHALL CLOSE this case; and
5. The Clerk SHALL SEND a copy of this Order to all parties and to the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Frederick County, 100 W. Patrick Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701.



RICHARD D. BENNETT
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE