

Submitted: August 6, 2004
Filed: August 11, 2004

Before MELLOY, LAY, and COLLOTON, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM.

Ione Betone and others appeal the district court's¹ order denying their motion for preliminary injunctive relief. We agree with the district court that absent a complaint, such a motion could not be entertained. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 3 (civil action is commenced on filing of complaint with court); Nat'l Credit Union Admin. Bd. v. Johnson, 133 F.3d 1097, 1103 n.5 (8th Cir. 1998) (limited purpose of preliminary injunction is to preserve relative positions of parties until trial on merits).

Accordingly, we affirm. See 8th Cir. R. 47B.

¹The Honorable Richard H. Battey, United States District Judge for the District of South Dakota.