Soliday v. 7-Eleven Inc. Doc. 83

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA FORT MYERS DIVISION

JENNIFER EMORY, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated; VIRGINIA KNIGHT, on behalf of themselves and all others situated,

Plaintiffs,

-VS-

Case No. 2:10-cv-87-FtM-36SPC

BLUE OCEAN HEALTHCARE PHYSICIANS GROUP, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company; STEVEN D. SHELL, Individually; STEPHANIE J. SHELL, Individually,

Defendants.

Detendants.

ORDER

This matter comes before the Court on the Parties' Joint Notice of Settlement (Doc. #28) filed on March 16, 2011. The parties indicate a settlement has been reached with respect to the Plaintiff's claims.

The parties are required to provide the Court with sufficient information regarding the settlement in order for the Court to determine whether the settlement is a "fair and reasonable resolution of a bona fide dispute" over FLSA issues. Lynn's Food Stores, Inc. v. United States, 679 F.2d 1350, 1354-55 (11th Cir. 1982). Therefore, the parties should submit a Joint Motion to Approve the Settlement with the settlement documents. The information should include a copy of the settlement agreement signed by all parties, a brief description of the terms of the settlement, the number of hours and lost wages originally claimed by the Plaintiff and whether or not the Plaintiffs claims were settled by compromise.

With regard to attorney's fees, the Court recognizes the ruling in Bonetti v. Embarq. Mgmt.

Co., 2009 WL 2371407 (M.D. Fla. Aug. 2009)¹. Counsel should indicate whether the settlement of

the attorney's fees was independent and in seriatim in order to forego the necessity to file copies of

billing records with their settlement documentation.

To date, the parties have not filed the Settlement documentation within the time frame

indicated in the Notice of Settlement. Therefore, the parties are directed to file the Settlement

documentation as outlined below.

Accordingly, it is now

ORDERED:

Plaintiffs' Notice of Settlement (Doc. #28) is taken under advisement. The parties shall

have up to and including APRIL 1, 2011, to submit their settlement documentation

DONE AND ORDERED at Fort Myers, Florida, this 18th day of March, 2011.

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Copies: All Parties of Record

¹The Bonetti Court held if the Plaintiff's recovery and attorney's fees were settled independently of the Plaintiff's claims, there would be no need to file the attorney's billing records unless the fees were out of line compared with the settlement agreement. Thus, the award of attorney's fees and costs would no longer require approval using the lodestar approach.

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