UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA FORT MYERS DIVISION

WAYNE FIORE, on his own behalf and others similarly situated, and WARNER N. ELKINS, CHARLES BOGGS, ERIC CRONCE, BRENDA D. SMITH, CASEY HAMLIN, CHRISTOPHER TIEDEMANN, SCOTT WANDELL, JAMES BETTS, JUSTIN SPURLOCK, MICHAEL HOFFMAN, RICHARD ANDERSON, MICHAEL HOFFMAN, RICHARD ANDERSON, MICHAEL HONDLIK, SCOTT DUNN, BELA HALMI, MISTY SANCHEZ, ERIK SHERMAN, APOLO PLATON, as optin plaintiffs,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

Case No. 2:09-cv-843-FtM-29SPC

GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY, an Ohio Corporation,

Defendant.

OPINION AND ORDER

This matter is before the Court on consideration of the Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendation (Doc. #209), filed May 9, 2012, recommending that the Joint Motion to Approve Settlement (Doc. #208) be granted, the settlement be approved as fair and reasonable, and the case be dismissed. The parties filed a Joint Notice of No Objection (Doc. #210) on May 10, 2012.

After conducting a careful and complete review of the findings and recommendations, a district judge may accept, reject or modify the magistrate judge's report and recommendation. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); <u>Williams v. Wainwright</u>, 681 F.2d 732 (11th Cir. 1982), <u>cert. denied</u>, 459 U.S. 1112 (1983). In the absence of specific objections, there is no requirement that a district judge review factual findings *de novo*, <u>Garvey v. Vaughn</u>, 993 F.2d 776, 779 n.9 (11th Cir. 1993), and the court may accept, reject or modify, in whole or in part, the findings and recommendations. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C). The district judge reviews legal conclusions *de novo*, even in the absence of an objection. <u>See Cooper-Houston v.</u> <u>Southern Ry. Co.</u>, 37 F.3d 603, 604 (11th Cir. 1994); <u>Castro Bobadilla v. Reno</u>, 826 F. Supp. 1428, 1431-32 (S.D. Fla. 1993), <u>aff'd</u>, 28 F.3d 116 (11th Cir. 1994) (Table).

After conducting an independent examination of the file and upon due consideration of the Report and Recommendation, the Court accepts the Report and Recommendation of the magistrate judge.

Accordingly, it is now

ORDERED:

The Report and Recommendation (Doc. #209) is hereby
adopted and the findings incorporated herein.

2. The Joint Motion to Approve Settlement (Doc. #208) is **GRANTED** and the Settlement Agreement (Doc. #208-1) is **approved** as fair and reasonable.

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3. The Clerk shall enter judgment **dismissing** the case with prejudice, except as provided by the Settlement Agreement, terminate all deadlines and motions, and close the file.

DONE AND ORDERED at Fort Myers, Florida, this <u>14th</u> day of

May, 2012.

JOHN E. STEELE United States District Judge

Copies: Hon. Sheri Polster Chappell United States Magistrate Judge

Counsel of Record Unrepresented parties