UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA FORT MYERS DIVISION

HEATHER SHERMAN, individually and on behalf of others similarly situated,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No: 2:12-cv-635-FtM-29DNF

CORIZON HEALTH, INC., a Delaware corporation,

Defendant.

OPINION AND ORDER

This matter is before the Court on consideration of the Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendation (Doc. #68), filed October 29, 2014, recommending that the Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement (Doc. #67) be granted, the Settlement Agreement and Release of Claims (Doc. #67-1) be approved, and the case dismissed. The parties filed a Joint Notice of No Objection to Report and Recommendation (Doc. #69) on November 3, 2014.

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*, Garvey v. Vaughn, 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</u> <u>Bobadilla v. Reno</u>, 826 F. Supp. 1428, 1431-32 (S.D. Fla. 1993), aff'd, 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:

1. The Report and Recommendation (Doc. #68) is hereby **adopted** and the findings **incorporated** herein.

2. The parties' Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement (Doc. #67) is **granted** and the Settlement Agreement and General Release of Claims (Doc. #67-1) is approved as a fair and reasonable resolution of a bona fide dispute.

3. The Clerk shall enter judgment **dismissing** the case with prejudice, terminate all deadlines and motions, and close the file.

DONE and ORDERED at Fort Myers, Florida, this <u>4th</u> day of November, 2014.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Copies: Hon. Douglas N. Frazier United States Magistrate Judge

Counsel of Record Unrepresented parties