UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA ORLANDO DIVISION

THERESA LOMAS and ROBIN TAYLOR,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Case No: 6:22-cv-679-PGB-DCI

HEALTH INSURANCE ASSOCIATES LLC,

Defendant.

ORDER

This cause comes before the Court on the parties' Joint Motion for Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement (Doc. 29 (the "**Motion**")) and the parties' Notice of Amended Class Action Settlement Agreement (Doc. 29-1 (the "**Settlement Agreement**")). The Court has reviewed the Motion, including the Settlement Agreement, between Plaintiffs Theresa Lomas and Robin Taylor, and as representatives of the Class, and Defendant Health Insurance Associates LLC, Based on this review and the findings below, the Motion is due to be **GRANTED**.

IT IS ORDERED AND ADJUDGED as follows:

 The Court has conducted a preliminary assessment of the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Settlement Agreement and hereby FINDS that the settlement falls within the range of reasonableness meriting possible final approval. The Court therefore PRELIMINARILY **APPROVES** the proposed settlement as set forth in the Settlement Agreement (Doc. 29-1).

- The Court hereby **PRELIMINARILY APPROVES** the Settlement Agreement (Doc. 29-1) and the terms and conditions of settlement set forth therein, subject to further consideration at the Final Approval Hearing.
- 3. The Notice, Summary Notice and Claim Form (all attached to the Settlement Agreement) (Doc. 29-1, pp. 40—52), and their manner of transmission, comply with Rule 23 and due process because the notices and forms are reasonably calculated to adequately apprise class members of (i) the pending lawsuit, (ii) the proposed settlement, and (iii) their rights, including the right to either participate in the settlement, exclude themselves from the settlement, or object to the settlement.
- 4. For settlement purposes only, the Class is so numerous that joinder of all Class Members is impracticable.
- 5. For settlement purposes only, Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the Class claims.
- 6. For settlement purposes only, there are questions of law and fact common to the Class which predominate over any questions affecting only individual Class Members.
- 7. For settlement purposes only, class certification is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy.

 Settlement Approval. The Settlement Agreement, including the Notice, Summary Notice and Claim Form attached to the Settlement Agreement as Exhibits A-C (Doc. 29-1, pp. 40–52) are PRELIMINARILY APPROVED.

9. Appointment of the Settlement Administrator and the Provision of

Class Notice. AB Data, Ltd. is appointed as the Settlement Administrator. The Settlement Administrator will notify Class Members of the settlement in the manner specified in the Settlement Agreement. The Court further **FINDS** that the Notice Program described in the Settlement Agreement is the best practicable under the circumstances. The Notice Program is reasonably calculated under the circumstances to inform the Class of the pendency of the Action, certification of a Class, the terms of the Settlement, Class Counsel's Fee Application, the claim process, and their rights to optout of the Class or object to the Settlement. The Notices and Notice Program constitute sufficient notice to all persons entitled to notice. The Notices and Notice Program satisfy all applicable requirements of law, including, but not limited to, Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 and the Constitutional requirement of due process.

10. Claim for a Settlement Award. Class Members who want to receive an award under the Settlement Agreement must accurately complete and submit a Claim Form to the Settlement Administrator sixty (60) calendar days prior to the Final Approval Hearing, as specified in the Notice.

11. **Objection to Settlement.** Any Class Member who has not submitted a timely written exclusion request pursuant to paragraph 13 below and who wishes to object to the fairness, reasonableness, or adequacy of the Settlement Agreement, the Fees, Costs, and Expenses Award must submit written objections to the Court postmarked not less than 7 (seven) calendar days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. Any objection regarding or related to the Settlement Agreement shall contain a caption or title that identifies it as "Objection to Class Settlement in Lomas and Taylor v. Health Insurance Associates, LLC, No. 22-cv-1564" and also shall contain the following information: (i) the objector's name, address, and telephone number; (ii) the name, address, and telephone number of any attorney for the objector with respect to the objection; (iii) the factual basis and legal grounds for the objection, including any documents sufficient to establish the basis for his or her standing as a Class Member, including the phone number(s) at which he or she received call(s) covered by this Settlement; and (iv) identification of the case name, case number, and court for any prior class action lawsuit in which the objector and the objector's attorney (if applicable) has objected to a proposed class action settlement. If an objecting party chooses to appear at the hearing they must comply with the above requirements and, no later than the Opt-Out Deadline, a notice of intention to appear, either in person or through an attorney, must be filed with the Court and list the name, address, and telephone number of the person and attorney, if any, who will

appear. Only Class Members who submit timely objections may speak at the Final Approval Hearing. If a Class Member makes an objection through an attorney, the Class Member will be responsible for his or her personal attorney's fees and costs.

- 12. **Failure to Object to Settlement.** Class Members who fail to object to the Settlement Agreement in the manner specified above will: (1) be deemed to have waived their right to object to the Settlement Agreement; (2) be foreclosed from objecting (whether by a subsequent objection, intervention, appeal, or any other process) to the Settlement Agreement; and (3) not be entitled to speak at the Final Approval Hearing.
- 13. **Requesting Exclusion.** Class Members may elect not to be part of the Class and not to be bound by this Settlement Agreement. Individual requests for exclusion may be submitted to the Settlement Administrator by postal mail. No mass opt-outs are allowed. All requests for exclusion must be in writing, must be signed by the Class Member, and must include the Class Member's name, address, and the telephone number that allegedly received a call made by or on behalf of Defendant during the Settlement Class Period, and must clearly state that the Person wishes to be excluded from the Litigation and the Agreement. A request for exclusion must be submitted no later than **sixty (60) calendar days** after entry of this Order.
- 14. **Provisional Certification.** The Class is provisionally certified as a class of all users or subscribers to telephone numbers that received two or more

telemarketing calls in a 12-month period from Leads Mogul LLC that were forwarded to Health Insurance Associates, LLC more than 30 days after their telephone numbers were registered with the National Do Not Call Registry. Excluded from the Class are (1) the Judges and Magistrate Judges presiding over the action and members of their immediate families; (2) the Defendant, its parent companies, successors, predecessors, and any entities in which the Defendant or its parents have a controlling interest, and Defendant's current and former officers, directors, agents, trustees, representatives, employees, principals, partners, joint ventures, and entities controlled by Defendant; (3) persons who properly execute and timely file a request for exclusion from the Class; and (4) the legal representatives, successors, or assigns of any such excluded person(s).

- 15. **Conditional Appointment of Class Representatives and Class Counsel.** Plaintiffs are conditionally certified as the class representatives to implement the Parties' settlement in accordance with the Settlement Agreement. The law firm of Kaufman P.A. is conditionally appointed as Class Counsel. Plaintiff and Class Counsel must fairly and adequately protect the Class's interests.
- 16. **Stay of Other Proceedings.** The Court hereby orders that any actions or proceedings in any court in the United States involving any Released Claims asserted by any Releasing Parties, except any matters necessary to implement, advance, or further the approval of the Settlement Agreement

are stayed pending the Final Approval Hearing and issuance of any Final Order and Judgment.

- 17. Termination. If the Settlement Agreement terminates for any reason, the following will occur: (a) class certification will be automatically vacated; (b) Plaintiffs and Class Counsel will stop functioning as the class representative and class counsel, respectively, except to the extent previously appointed by the Court; and (c) this Action will revert to its previous status in all respects as it existed immediately before the Parties gave notice of their settlement, other than as to payments made to, or owed for work already incurred by, the Settlement Administrator. Neither the settlement nor this Order will waive or otherwise impact the Parties' rights or arguments. Neither the Settlement terms nor any publicly disseminated information regarding the Settlement, including, without limitation, the Class Notice, court filings, orders and public statements, may be used as evidence. In addition, neither the fact of, nor any documents relating to, any Party's withdrawal from the Settlement, any failure of the Court to approve the Settlement and/or any objections or interventions may be used as evidence.
- 18. **No Admissions.** Nothing in this Order is, or may be construed as, an admission or concession on any point of fact or law by or against any Party.
- 19. **Stay of Dates and Deadlines.** All discovery and pretrial proceedings and deadlines are stayed and suspended until further notice from the Court, except for such actions as are necessary to implement the Settlement

Agreement and this Order. Pending final determination of whether the Settlement should be approved, Plaintiff, all persons in the Class, and persons purporting to act on their behalf are enjoined from commencing or prosecuting (either directly, representatively or in any other capacity) against any of the Released Parties any action or proceeding in any court, arbitration forum or tribunal asserting any of the Released Claims.

- 20. **Modifications.** Counsel for the Parties are hereby authorized to utilize all reasonable procedures in connection with the administration of the settlement which are not materially inconsistent with either this Order or the terms of the Agreement. The Parties may further modify the Settlement Agreement prior to the Final Approval Hearing so long as such modifications do not materially change the terms of the settlement provided therein. The Court may approve the Settlement Agreement with such modifications as may be agreed to by the Parties, if appropriate, without further notice to Class Members.
- 21. Final Approval Hearing. On June 23, 2023, at 10:00am, this Court will hold a Fairness Hearing to determine whether the Settlement Agreement should be finally approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate. Plaintiffs' and Class Counsel's motion for attorneys' fees and expenses for Class Counsel shall be filed thirty-five (35) calendar days before the Final Approval Hearing. Plaintiff's motion in support of the Final Judgment shall be filed fifteen (15) calendar days before the Final Approval Hearing. Any brief

Defendant may choose to file shall be filed on or before **seven (7) calendar days** before the Final Approval Hearing. This Court may order the Fairness Hearing to be postponed, adjourned, continued, or set for remote appearances. If that occurs, the updated hearing date or location shall be posted on the Settlement Website, but other than the website posting, the Parties will not be required to provide any additional notice to Class Members. Summary Timeline. This Order provides for the following timeline dates and deadlines related to the provision of notice and the Final Approval Hearing:

<u>Event</u>	Date
Notice Date	30 days after Preliminary Approval
Deadline for filing papers in	35 days prior to Final Approval
support of Class Counsel's	Hearing
application for an award of	
attorneys' fees and expenses	
Claims Deadline	60 days after the Notice Date
Opt-Out Deadline	60 days after the Notice Date
Deadline for filing Motion for Final	15 days prior to the Final Approval
Approval	Hearing
Responses to Objections	7 days prior to the Final Approval
	Hearing
Final Approval & Fairness Hearing	95 days after entry of Preliminary Approval

DONE AND ORDERED in Orlando, Florida on March 20, 2023.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Copies furnished to:

Counsel of Record Unrepresented Parties