ECF Case

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ex rel. SHERRY A. HUNT,

Plaintiff,

CITIGROUP, INC., CITIBANK NA, INC., and CITIMORTGAGE, INC.,

Defendants.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Intervenor,

v.

CITIMORTGAGE, INC.,

Defendant.

USDC SDNY DOCUMENT **ELECTRONICALLY FILED** DOC #: 11 Civ. 5423 (VM)

STIPULATION AND ORDER OF SETTLEMENT AND RELEASE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE RELATOR

WHEREAS, on August 5, 2011, Relator Sherry A. Hunt ("Relator") commenced this qui tam action (the "Action") pursuant to the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3730(b), by filing a Complaint against defendants Citigroup Inc., Citibank NA, Inc., and CitiMortgage, Inc. ("CitiMortgage") (collectively, the "Defendants");

WHEREAS, on October 20, 2011, Relator filed a First Amended Complaint against the Defendants:

WHEREAS, on February 14, 2012, the United States of America (the "United States" or the "Government") will intervene in this Action and file a Complaint-in-Intervention against defendant CitiMortgage;

WHEREAS, on or about February 13, 2012, the United States and the Defendants executed a Stipulation and Order of Settlement and Dismissal (the "Citi Settlement Agreement") resolving, among other matters, the allegations in the Complaint;

WHEREAS, the Citi Settlement Agreement has been submitted for approval and entry by this Court;

WHEREAS, under the terms of paragraph 3 of the Citi Settlement Agreement,

Defendants have agreed to pay the United States \$158,300,000 (the "Settlement Amount");

WHEREAS, Relator has asserted that, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3730(d)(1), she is entitled to a portion of the Settlement Amount;

WHEREAS, the United States agrees that Relator is entitled to a percentage of the Settlement Amount pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3730(d)(1); and

WHEREAS, the United States and the Relator mutually desire to make a full, complete, and final settlement of Relator's Claim;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, upon consent of the United States and Relator, by and through their respective counsel:

1. The United States agrees that Relator shall be awarded a total of \$31,660,000 (the "Relator's Share"), which amount constitutes twenty percent (20%) of the Settlement Amount. The United States will make payment of the Relator's Share through the care of her attorneys, Rotts & Gibbs, LLC, within a reasonable time after the Government's receipt of the full Settlement Amount from Defendants. The United States' obligation to make payment of the Relator's Share is expressly conditioned on the receipt by the United States of the Settlement Amount from Defendants pursuant the Citi Settlement Agreement. Should Defendants fail to

pay the full Settlement Amount, the United States shall have no obligation to make payment of the Relator's Share.

- 2. Relator agrees that she is not entitled to payment of, and disclaims any entitlement to any portion of any payment made by CitiMortgage, or any affiliate of CitiMortgage, in connection with any settlement entered into by the United States Department of Justice and/or the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") and CitiMortgage, or any affiliate of CitiMortgage, based on loan servicing and other activities, including, but not limited to, the submission of false annual certifications to HUD in connection with CitiMortgage's participation in HUD's Direct Endorsement Lender program (the "Loan Servicing Settlement").
- 3. Relator agrees that the Citi Settlement Agreement is fair, adequate, and reasonable, and will not challenge the Citi Settlement Agreement pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3730(c)(2)(B), and expressly waives the opportunity for a hearing on any such objection, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3730(c)(2)(B).
- 4. Upon receipt of the Relator's Share, Relator, for herself, her heirs, successors, and assigns, will release and shall be deemed to have released and forever discharged the United States from (i) any claims pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3730(d)(1) for a share of the proceeds of the Citi Settlement Agreement or the Loan Servicing Settlement and (ii) any other claims arising from or relating to the filing of the above-captioned Action.
- 5. Specifically excluded and reserved from those claims released under Paragraph 4 above is any dispute, claim, or defense which may arise between Relator and Defendants regarding attorneys' fees or claims of Relator under 31 U.S.C. § 3730(d)(1).

- 6. This Stipulation and Order does not resolve or in any manner affect any claims that the Government has or may have against Relator under Title 26 of the United States Code (the Internal Revenue Code).
- 7. The United States and the Relator agree that, if the Citi Settlement Agreement is held by a court not to be "fair, adequate, and reasonable" as required under 31 U.S.C. § 3730(c)(2)(B), or if the Complaint-in-Intervention is not dismissed with prejudice, this Stipulation and Order is null and void.
- 8. This Stipulation and Order, together with all of the obligations and terms hereof, shall inure to the benefit of and shall bind the Parties, their successors, assigns, and heirs.
- 9. Each of the undersigned signatories represents that he or she has the full power and authority to enter into this Stipulation and Order. The undersigned Government attorney represents that he or she is signing this Stipulation and Order in his or her official capacity and that he or she is fully empowered and authorized to do so.
- 10. This Stipulation and Order constitutes the entire agreement of the United States and Relator with respect to the subject matter of this Stipulation and Order, and may not be modified, amended or terminated except by a written agreement signed by the United States and Relator specifically referring to this Stipulation and Order.
- 11. This Stipulation and Order shall be governed by the laws of the United States.

 The Parties agree that the exclusive jurisdiction and venue for any dispute arising under this Stipulation shall be the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.
- 12. This Stipulation and Order may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall constitute an original and all of which shall constitute one and the same agreement.

13. This Stipulation and Order shall become effective on the date the Court enters this Stipulation and Order.

Dated: New York, New York

February 13, 2012

PREET BHARARA

United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York Attorney for the United States

By:

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February 13, 2012

SHERRY ACHIENT

Relator

Dated: Columbia, Missouri

February 13, 2012

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SO ORDERED.

Dated: New York, New York

February 15, 2012

THE HONORABLE VICTOR MARRERO

United States District Judge