

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
FORT MYERS DIVISION

ANTONELLA V. SUAREZ,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No.: 2:22-cv-422-KCD

CUSCATLAN RESTAURANT,  
LLC.,  
SALVADOR CARBAJAL,  
AND MARIA LUZ GALDAMEZ,

Defendants.

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**ORDER**

In this Fair Labor Standards Act case, the parties have filed a Joint Stipulation for Dismissal with Prejudice. (Doc. 23.) Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(a)(1)(A)(ii) allows a plaintiff to dismiss an action voluntarily if a stipulation of dismissal is signed by all parties who have appeared. The dismissal is effective upon filing and requires no further action by the Court. *See Anago Franchising, Inc. v. Shaz, LLC*, 677 F.3d 1272, 1278 (11th Cir. 2012).<sup>1</sup> The text of the FLSA does not provide, and no Eleventh Circuit decision has ever held, that FLSA claims are exempt from Rule 41. To the contrary, the

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, all internal quotation marks, citations, and alterations have been omitted in this and later citations.

Eleventh Circuit has reasoned that the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure apply “in actions brought under the Fair Labor Standards Act no less than in any other case.” *Vasconcelo v. Miami Auto Max, Inc.*, 981 F.3d 934, 942 (11th Cir. 2020) (holding that Rule 68’s cost-shifting provisions trump the FLSA’s cost-shifting provisions). And there is “no distinction” between the operation of Rule 41(a)(1)(A)(ii) and Rule 68 in an FLSA action. *See Casso-Lopez v. Beach Time Rental Suncoast, LLC*, 335 F.R.D. 458, 461-462 (M.D. Fla. 2020) (holding parties may terminate an FLSA case by filing either a Rule 41 stipulation of dismissal with prejudice or a Rule 68(a) notice of acceptance of an offer of judgment “and the district court is immediately powerless to interfere”); *see also Dicom v. KJIMS Dev. Co., Inc.*, No. 2:16-cv-327-FtM-99CM, 2016 WL 6678420, \*1 (M.D. Fla. Nov. 14, 2016) (“[T]he parties may dismiss [an FLSA] case in its entirety pursuant to the Joint Stipulation for Dismissal With Prejudice without further action from the Court as it is unconditional and self-executing.”).

Accordingly, this action is dismissed with prejudice. The Clerk is directed to enter judgment, deny all pending motions, terminate all scheduled events, and close the case.

**ORDERED** in Fort Myers, Florida this October 30, 2022.



Kyle C. Dudek  
United States Magistrate Judge