



Dora

Department of Regulatory Agencies

Colorado Civil Rights Division

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the marketplace and is committed to promoting a fair and competitive business environment in Colorado.

Consumer protection is our mission. *As a division of DORA, the Civil Rights Division (CCRD) protects Coloradans from unlawful discrimination in employment, housing and places of public accommodation.*

Civil Rights Commission Files Discrimination Complaint against Wilder Farms

(Denver, Colorado, March 24, 2011) – On March 17, 2011, the Colorado Civil Rights Commission, through the Colorado Attorney General, filed a Notice of Hearing and Formal Complaint against the Wilder Corporation of Delaware, commonly known as Wilder Farms. The case, *Shirley Farris v. Wilder Farms*, was first filed with the Colorado Civil Rights Division roughly one year ago, on March 22, 2010. On December 7, 2010, after a thorough nine-month investigation that included numerous interviews of past and current employees, the Division issued a probable cause finding. In that finding, the Division found that there was reason to believe that Ms. Farris had been sexually harassed by her managers and at least one co-worker. A copy of the finding, as well as related documents, can be found at <http://www.dora.state.co.us/civil-rights>.

The specifics of the case will be argued before an administrative law judge at the Office of Administrative Courts on July 11, 2011. Ms. Farris alleges that several of her managers commonly used offensive, derogatory, and sexual

terminology when referring to her. She also complains that a co-worker was allowed to view internet pornography from his work computer. According to her, when she complained to Wilder's corporate headquarters, Wilder Farms undertook an investigation without her input and ultimately, took no action against either manager or her co-worker.

The Notice of Hearing and Formal Complaint cites that Ms. Farris is seeking full recovery of actual damages, as well as both injunctive and equitable relief, as permitted by the Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act, C.R.S. §24-34-301, *et seq.*

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