

BLOGS
RICO

Court Dismisses Class Action Claims Against Pet Store Franchisor

In *Jones v. Petland Inc.*, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 12538 (S.D. Ohio Feb. 11, 2010), franchisees sued franchisor Petland, asserting in a class action complaint numerous claims of fraud and misrepresentation as well as a RICO claim. Petland moved to dismiss all claims. The court granted Petland's motion and dismissed all of the franchisees' claims with prejudice. The court found that the plaintiffs had failed to plead their fraud and misrepresentation claims with particularity as required under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The court also found the franchisees' RICO claim deficient for want of an identified "enterprise."