

Broiler Chicken Growers

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Related Practice Areas: **Antitrust / Competition**

Haff Poultry, Inc. et al. v. Tyson Foods, Inc. et al., Case No. 6:17-cv-00033-RJS (E.D. Okla.) and *Haff Poultry, Inc. et al. v. Koch Foods, Inc. et al.*, Case No. 7:18-cv-00031-D (E.D.N.C.) allege that vertically-integrated poultry companies formed a nationwide conspiracy to suppress and maintain broiler chicken growers' compensation below competitive levels.

Hausfeld is Co-Lead Counsel in these cases and represents proposed classes of domestic broiler chicken growers. The Defendants are Tyson Foods, Pilgrim's Pride, Perdue Farms, Koch Foods, and Sanderson Farms—the five largest vertically-integrated poultry companies in the country.

Both cases allege that these five vertically-integrated poultry companies, together with other co-conspirators, formed a conspiracy to suppress and maintain the compensation for broiler chicken growing services below competitive levels—thereby harming the growers in the proposed classes. In particular, these cases involve agreements among the co-conspirators not to compete for broiler chicken growing services, and to share detailed information on compensation with one another. The cases allege that the conspiracy is in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act and the Packers and Stockyards Act.

The case against Tyson Foods, Pilgrim's Pride, and Perdue Farms is pending before the Honorable Robert J. Shelby in the Eastern District of Oklahoma. Defendants have filed various motions to dismiss, which are currently under consideration. The case against Koch Foods and Sanderson Farms is pending before the Honorable James C. Dever, III in the Eastern District of North Carolina.