



Investor Relations | Smithfield Foods USA, Global Food Company

## Smithfield Foods Statement Regarding McGowan v. Murphy-Brown Verdict

SMITHFIELD, Va., March 08, 2019—We believe that this verdict is unfair and unjust. It presents an unwarranted threat to North Carolina farm families and to all agriculture across the country.

These lawsuits are an abuse of our legal system, one that bypasses decisions made by lawmakers and regulators. We will continue to defend these cases on behalf of family farmers and all agriculture.

As with the first three trials, this negative result is due in large measure to rulings by the court that our attorneys believe are incorrect. These errors skewed the evidence presented to the jury in favor of plaintiffs and prejudiced our ability to defend the case, our company, our industry, family farmers and all agriculture. We will appeal to the Fourth Circuit. We believe we will prevail in a judicial setting where the plaintiffs' attorneys cannot manipulate jurors.

Our appeals of the results of the first two trials are progressing in the Fourth Circuit. Our first appellate brief was filed with the Fourth Circuit last week. And, our attorneys have filed post-trial motions asking the trial court to vacate the judgment from the third trial. As soon as those motions are decided, our appeal of that result will also progress in the Fourth Circuit.

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