## **EXHIBIT A**

## THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

KENNETH PATTERSON, On Behalf of Himself And All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff.

VS.

LONNIE "BO" PILGRIM, LONNIE KEN PILGRIM, CLIFFORD E. BUTLER, J. CLINTON, RIVERS, RICHARD A COGDILL, RENEE N. DEBAR, PILGRIM'S PRIDE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE, and JOHN DOES 1-10,

Defendants.

DENISE M. SMALLS, On Behalf of Herself And All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff.

VS.

LONNIE PILGRIM, LONNIE KEN PILGRIM, CLIFFORD E. BUTLER, J. CLINTON, RIVERS, RICHARD A COGDILL, RENEE N. DEBAR, PILGRIM'S PRIDE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE, and JOHN DOES 1-20,

Defendants.

Civil Action: 2:08-cv-0472-

TJW

Civil Action: 2:09-cv-0011-TJW-CE

## ORDER CONSOLIDATING RELATED ERISA ACTIONS

On this 20th day of July, 2009, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. The actions entitled *Kenneth Patterson v. Lonnie "Bo" Pilgrim et al*, 2:08-cv-0472-TJW and *Denise M. Smalls v. Lonnie Pilgrim et al*, 2:09-cv-0011-TJW-CE (the "Actions") assert claims pursuant to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act ("ERISA") that are similar

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and present common issues of law and fact.

2. The consolidation of the ERISA Actions would serve the interests of judicial economy.

- 3. The Actions are hereby consolidated pursuant to Fed.R.Civ.P. 42(a).
- 4. The Court sets a scheduling conference in the case on July 30, 2009 at 1:45pm.
- 4. The caption of the consolidated action shall hereby be:

In Re Pilgrim's Pride Stock Investment Plan ERISA Litigation, No. 2:08-cv-472-TJW.

- 7. Plaintiffs Kenneth Patterson and Denise Smalls are appointed as the Interim Lead Plaintiffs in the consolidated action.
- 8. The law firms of Squitieri & Fearon, LLP and Gainey & McKenna shall serve as interim co-lead counsel to the ERISA Plaintiffs in this action subsequent to the filing of this Order.

  The Johnson Law Firm shall serve as co-lead Plaintiffs' interim Liaison Counsel for the prosecution of the ERISA claims in this action subsequent to the filing of this Order.

SIGNED this 20th day of July, 2009.

T. JOHN WARD

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

John Ward