



Food Company, Inc.

One Dole Drive • Westlake Village, CA 91362 • 818-874-4000 • Fax 818-874-4625

NEWS RELEASE

In U.S. Contact: Marty Ordman

Phone: 818-874-4834

In Europe Contact: Marie Noelle Fixler

Phone: 33 0 1 44 17 3060

DOLE TO WITHDRAW DEFAMATION SUIT

WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CALIFORNIA – October 14, 2009 Dole Food Company, Inc. today announced that it is dismissing its defamation lawsuit against filmmakers Fredrik Gertten, Margarete Jangard and WG Film AB in the Los Angeles Superior Court, relating to the film Bananas!*

Dole made its decision in light of the free speech concerns being expressed in Sweden, although it continues to believe in the merits of its case. Dole strongly believes in freedom of speech and expression, which are so important in Sweden and the United States.

“While the filmmakers continue to show a film that is fundamentally flawed and contains many false statements we look forward to an open discussion with the filmmakers regarding the content of the film,” said C. Michael Carter, Dole’s Executive Vice President and General Counsel.

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