

Restaurant owner sued over strip-searches

by UPI

ATLANTA - The former owner of a Georgia restaurant is being sued by the federal government on behalf of former employees who say they were strip-searched. The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission filed the lawsuit on behalf of three black employees at the Krystal restaurant in Winder, Ga., who said they were strip-searched after a white co-worker's cash register was found to be short \$100, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported Thursday. The male worker was allegedly ordered to disrobe in the back of the restaurant while the general manager watched. The two female workers were allegedly taken to the bathroom and told to strip down to their underwear, according to the lawsuit. The three employees were fired when they complained shortly after the June 2005 incident, the newspaper reported. "I've been doing this a long time and I've never seen anything like this," said Robert Dawkins, regional attorney for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Atlanta. The Krystal Co., the Chattanooga-based franchiser of Krystal fast-food restaurants, said New Capital Dimensions is a "completely separate company." "The Krystal Company is not a party to this lawsuit," the company said in a statement. "The Krystal Company has no tolerance for discrimination or harassment of any kind towards its own employees and it considers the alleged actions at issue absolutely deplorable."

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