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Requiring Public School Uniforms May Infringe on Students' First Amendment Rights

Burke Education Law Alert

On February 14, 2014, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that a public school's policy mandating uniforms, which displayed a logo and written motto, was subject to strict scrutiny because it compelled speech, thus infringing on the students' First Amendment rights.

In *Frudden v. Pilling*, the public school instituted a mandatory uniform policy which required students to wear a red or navy polo-style shirt depicting a gopher next to the school name and the motto "Tomorrow's Leaders."

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