

Orkin agrees to settle its fraud lawsuit

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TAMPA — Orkin has settled a fraud and racketeering lawsuit brought by the owners of an apartment complex badly damaged by termites, the company said Friday.

The settlement came a day after opening statements in the \$6.7 million civil case brought by Coachman Crossing Apartments. Terms of the settlement were confidential.

The owners of the apartments had complained the complex was badly damaged by subterranean termites when Orkin faked pest control treatments and forged documents to cover it up. The lawsuit was one of several alleging similar misdeeds filed against the Atlanta-based pest control company.

The case was considered a preview of a much larger lawsuit brought by individual homeowners which has been granted class-action status by a Hillsborough Circuit Court judge.