



New York Judge Dismisses Individual Smoking and Health Suit

Winston-Salem, N.C. – June 20, 2005 - R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company is pleased with today's decision by Justice Ute Wolfe Lally of the New York Supreme Court for Nassau County to dismiss an individual smoking and health case brought against the former Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corporation, successor by merger to The American Tobacco Company (American).

In the suit, Selma Rosen claimed she became addicted to cigarettes after smoking American's Lucky Strike cigarettes for approximately four years in the late 1950s. Rosen alleged that American failed to warn her of the health risks of smoking and designed an unreasonably dangerous product. Rosen then continued smoking other manufacturers' cigarettes for the next 35 years. Those manufacturers were not included in her suit, however.

"The evidence presented in this case simply did not support the plaintiff's claims," said J. Jeffery Raborn, senior counsel for R.J. Reynolds.

In granting the motion for directed verdict, Justice Lally found the plaintiffs had offered insufficient evidence that Rosen could not quit smoking and that, because of her indifference to warnings she later received regarding the health risks of smoking, an earlier warning about the risks of smoking would not have made any difference on her decision to smoke.

On July 30, 2004, the domestic tobacco business of Brown & Williamson Holdings, Inc. (B&W), formerly known as Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corporation, merged with R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, a New Jersey corporation, to form R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, a North Carolina corporation. B&W is an affiliate of British American Tobacco, p.l.c.

[R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company](#) (R.J. Reynolds) is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of [Reynolds American Inc.](#) (NYSE: RAI). R.J. Reynolds is the second-largest tobacco company in the United States, manufacturing about one of every three cigarettes sold in the United States. R.J.

Reynolds' product line includes five of the nation's 10 best-selling cigarette brands: Camel, Winston, Kool, Salem and Doral. For more information about R.J. Reynolds, visit the company's Web site at www.RJRT.com.