



**Minnesota judge dismisses 'Lights' class-action suit
Against R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company**

Winston-Salem, N.C. – May 12, 2005 - A Minnesota state district court judge has dismissed in its entirety a "Lights" class-action suit, *Dahl v. R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company*, ruling that the claims brought against the company conflicted with the federal "Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act."

The *Dahl* suit was brought on behalf of smokers in Minnesota who claimed the "Lights" designation on cigarettes manufactured by R.J. Reynolds was misleading.

"We obviously are pleased with the decision and believe the court's reasoning should apply to all cases with claims relating to 'Lights' cigarettes," said Martin L. Holton III, senior vice president and deputy general counsel - litigation for R.J. Reynolds.

In dismissing all of the plaintiff's claims, Judge Diana Eagon concluded: "The Labeling Act spells out what health-related language must be on packages of cigarettes, 'Lights' and regulars, and forbids a state ... from imposing further requirements."

[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.

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