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PHILIP MORRIS

COMPANIES INC.

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May 23, 1996

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL

TO: The Board of Directors of Philip Morris Companies Inc.
FROM: Murray H. Bring *MB*
RE: **LITIGATION VICTORY**

Late this afternoon, the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the class certification in the Castano case. The Court of Appeals remanded the case to the District Court with instructions to dismiss the class complaint.

The Court's opinion, a copy of which is attached, is a very strong endorsement of our position. I will give you a complete report and update at next week's Board meeting.

Attachment

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