



---

Portfolio Media, Inc. | 230 Park Avenue, 7th Floor | New York, NY 10169 | www.law360.com  
Phone: +1 646 783 7100 | Fax: +1 646 783 7161 | customerservice@law360.com

---

## Philip Morris Settles Tobacco Liability Trial After Openings

By **Julie Manganis**

Law360 (January 24, 2025, 4:00 PM EST) -- Philip Morris and a supermarket chain have reached a settlement with the family of a Massachusetts woman who died of lung cancer in 2022 after decades of smoking the company's Marlboro cigarettes, ending the case a day after trial began.

Details of Friday's settlement, which was reached between the husband and daughters of Lisa Morris, the tobacco company and Stop & Shop Supermarkets Inc., were not provided on the Hampden County Superior Court docket.

Jurors were told in **opening statements** Thursday that Lisa Morris had been given a free sample cigarette while attending a county fair in Springfield as a preteen in the early 1970s, which, counsel for her family said, was part of a marketing strategy by Philip Morris.

A lawyer for the defendants told jurors that Morris, who worked in the medical field, heard and saw warnings about the risks of smoking. She also saw a family member die of lung cancer, periodically was able to quit, and could have stopped smoking, the defense argued.

The 2021 lawsuit had also named R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. as a defendant until earlier this month, when that company was dropped as a defendant based on a lack of evidence linking its products to Morris' death, according to a court filing.

Messages seeking comment from counsel for the Morris family and for the defendants did not immediately receive responses Friday.

The Morris family is represented by Allan Kanner and Taylor Bacques of Kanner & Whiteley PC, ShanShan Buo, Meredith Lever, Andrew Rainer and Mark A. Gottlieb of the Public Health Advocacy Institute and Tibor L. Nagy and Gregory N. Wolfe of Nagy Wolfe Appleton LLP.

Philip Morris and Stop & Shop are represented by Hildy Sastre, Scott A. Chesin, Abigail A. Lawson, Joseph H. Salazar, David R. Swaney, Curtis L. Perry and Kenneth Reilly of Shook Hardy & Bacon LLP.

The case is Morris v. Philip Morris USA Inc. et al., case number 2179CV00242, in the Hampden County Superior Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

--Additional reporting by Cara Salvatore. Editing by Kelly Duncan.

---

All Content © 2003-2025, Portfolio Media, Inc.