

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

In re: Vitamins Antitrust Litigation,

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) Misc. No. 99-197 (TFH)  
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**ORDER #1 -- Re: Class Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Approval of Settlement**

Upon careful consideration of class plaintiffs' motion for preliminary approval of settlement and form and manner of notice to the classes and the parties' responses to this motion presented at the November 3, 1999 status conference; the Court finds that, in light of the magnitude of this case and the precedent in the caselaw of holding hearings before granting preliminary approval of settlements<sup>1</sup>, it is appropriate to allow potential class members the opportunity to file motions to intervene and to respond to the class plaintiffs' motion for preliminary approval of settlement and form and manner of notice to the classes. Therefore, it is hereby

**ORDERED** that potential class members file their motions to intervene and their responses to the motion for preliminary approval of settlement and form and manner of notice to the classes by the close of business on November 12, 1999; it is further hereby

**ORDERED** that the settling parties reply to these responses by November 17, 1999; and it is further hereby

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<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., In re Mid-Atlantic Toyota Antitrust Litigation, 564 F.Supp. 1379, 1984 (D. Md. 1983) ("rather than automatically accepting the assurances of counsel that the proposed settlement is a good one and should be submitted to the class members, it is usually desirable to have a preliminary hearing.").

**ORDERED** that the parties in this case appear for a hearing on preliminary approval of the settlement and the form and manner of notice to the classes on November 22, 1999 at 2:30 p.m..

November \_\_\_\_, 1999

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Thomas F. Hogan  
United States District Judge