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ASHTON-TATE RECEIVES CLASS ACTION SUIT

TORRANCE, Calif., Dec. 19, 1990 -- Ashton-Tate Corporation (NASDAQ:TATE) today said that it has been served with a class action lawsuit filed by a Pennsylvania partnership, Rudolph, Palitz, as a representative of those who licensed dBASE products any time before Dec. 14, 1990.

The lawsuit was filed Dec. 17, 1990 in the United States District Court, Central District in Los Angeles. It seeks to recover unspecified damages based on alleged practices which caused customers to pay more than they might have otherwise, in connection with their license of Ashton-Tate's dBASE software products.

Ashton-Tate said that the charges are completely without merit and that it will defend vigorously against them.

Headquartered in Torrance, California, Ashton-Tate Corporation develops and markets microcomputer business applications and advanced connectivity software.

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Ashton-Tate and dBASE are registered trademarks of Ashton-Tate Corporation.