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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**LAWSUIT CLAIMS FAMILY DOLLAR STORES, INC.'S EMPLOYMENT
PRACTICES VIOLATE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT**

1,424 current/past employees sue for unpaid overtime

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., June 21, 2005—In the case against Family Dollar Stores, Inc. where more than 1,200 managers are suing for millions of dollars in unpaid overtime wages, starts its second week of testimony today. According to the complaint, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, Western Division, Charlotte-based retailer, Family Dollar Stores, Inc., intentionally and repeatedly misrepresented the true status of managerial compensation to its employees as well as their entitlement to overtime compensation violating the federal Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).

The 1,424 current and past employees allege they worked 70 – 90 hour work weeks without overtime compensation due to their managerial position as Store Managers. The FLSA's requirements for overtime exemption state that the employee's primary duty is

management of a department or subdivision and at least two or more full-time employees, as well as the authority to hire and fire employees. Evidence is expected to show the plaintiffs actually spent only 10-20% of their time conducting such managerial duties, and the remaining time was spent doing manual labor such as unloading trucks, stocking shelves, mopping the floor, and running the cash register. These same duties were also assigned to Family Dollar Stores, Inc.'s Stockers, Cashiers and Assistant Managers – all of whom are paid hourly and qualify for overtime compensation.

The “name plaintiffs” Janice Morgan, Barbara Richardson, Cora Cannon, and Laurie R. Trout (Wilson) are among 1,424 current and past employees from more than 30 states in the U.S. who seek to recover damages ranging from \$23 million to \$48 million.

According to the FLSA, recovered damages can be doubled if the court finds Family Dollar Stores, Inc. willfully and knowingly violated the FLSA.

Representing the plaintiffs is the law firm of Wiggins, Childs, Quinn & Pantazis, LLC, of Birmingham, Ala. The lead attorney is trial lawyer Gregory O. Wiggins. Co-counsel with Wiggins on this case is J. Allen Schreiber of Birmingham, Ala. firm Schreiber & Petro, P.C.

About Wiggins, Childs, Quinn & Patnazis, LLC

Wiggins, Childs, Quinn & Pantazis, LLC, founded in 1985, is a national law firm with more than 40 attorneys and locations in Birmingham, Ala. and Washington, D.C. The firm is known nationally for its expertise in representing employees and consumers in a wide range of civil disputes from individual lawsuits to complex class action litigation. A successful history in the state and federal courts has established the firm's reputation as a leader and advocate for the rights of individuals in the following arenas:

civil rights, contract law, labor and employment law, products liability, consumer fraud, personal injury, healthcare litigation, business and mass torts, and environmental law. In 2003, Wiggins, Childs, Quinn & Pantazis was named to the National Law Journal's "Plaintiff's Hot List" - the publication's pick of the 25 most exemplary plaintiff's firms in the nation.

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Additional information and other resources can be found at:

<http://www.wcqp.com/mediaroom>

www.familydollar.com

<http://www.dol.gov/dol/compliance/comp-flsa.htm>

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