



**Date:** April 29, 2021

**To:** Mitch Zeller  
Director, Center for Tobacco Products

**From:** Janet Woodcock, M.D.  
Acting Commissioner of Food and Drugs

**Subject:** Implementing approval of citizen petition regarding banning menthol as a characterizing flavor in cigarettes under section 907 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act

On April 29, 2021, the citizen petition filed April 12, 2013, from Tobacco Control Legal Consortium (now known as the Public Health Law Center), the African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council, and others regarding banning menthol as a characterizing flavor in cigarettes was granted. In accordance with 21 CFR 10.30(e)(2)(i), I am directing the Center for Tobacco Products to engage in the rulemaking process by promptly beginning to draft the proposed rule.

Janet Woodcock, M.D.  
Acting Commissioner of Food and Drugs