



Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Department of Justice filed a civil antitrust suit today challenging the acquisition of Glass For Cars, Inc., a leading Cleveland area auto glass dealer, by Guardian Industries, Inc. of Detroit, Michigan.

Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst said the suit, charging a violation of Section 7 of the Clayton Act, was filed in the U.S. District Court in Cleveland.

At the time of the acquisition in July 1972, Guardian, a major producer and fabricator of glass products, was engaged in the auto glass installation business in the Cleveland area. Glass For Cars, Inc., operating under the name B&B & Bruening Auto Glass Co., was the largest auto glass dealer in the Cleveland market.

Auto glass dealers engage in the business of replacing broken windshields, side windows and back windows in automobiles and trucks.

According to the complaint, at the time of the acquisition, Guardian accounted for approximately 9.5 percent of the total auto glass sales in the Cleveland area. At that time, B&B operated six

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auto glass replacement shops in the Cleveland area and accounted for approximately 32 percent of the auto glass installation market in Cleveland.

Assistant Attorney General Thomas E. Kauper, in charge of the Antitrust Division, said the complaint charged that the acquisition:

- eliminated actual competition in auto glass replacement between B&B and Guardian;

- lessened actual competition generally in the auto glass replacement market in the Cleveland area;

- increased concentration in the auto glass replacement market in the Cleveland area; and

- could trigger other acquisitions of Cleveland area auto glass shops by auto glass wholesalers and manufacturers.

Total auto glass sales in the Cleveland area were approximately \$1.8 million in 1971.

The suit asked that Guardian be ordered to divest all of its interest in B&B.