



# Department of Justice

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A federal grand jury in Cleveland, Ohio, today returned a felony indictment charging two companies, an unincorporated association, and four individuals with conspiring to fix prices for the retail sale of grocery products and meat items.

The two companies and the association are the largest grocery supermarket chains in Northeast Ohio.

Attorney General Benjamin R. Civiletti said the two-count indictment and a companion civil suit, both charging violations of Section 1 of the Sherman Act, were filed in U.S. District Court in Cleveland.

The defendants in the indictment were:

- First National Supermarkets, Inc., dba Pick-N-Pay Supermarkets; Richard J. Bogomolny, its chairman and president; and Raymond M. Korfant, its senior vice president for marketing and sales;
- Fisher Foods, Inc., dba Fazio's; and John Fazio, its former president; and
- Association of Stop-N-Shop Super Markets; and Charles A. Rini, its former president.

The two companies and the association were named in the civil suit.

Sanford M. Litvack, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division, said the indictment charged that, for two different periods in the years 1976 through 1978, the defendants and co-conspirators conspired to fix the prices of grocery products and meat items.

(MORE)

The total sales of the three defendant grocery chains in Cuyahoga County from 1976 through 1978 were approximately \$1.7 billion.

The maximum penalty upon conviction of each count of the indictment is a \$1 million fine for each of the corporations; a \$100,000 fine for the association; and a \$100,000 fine and three years in prison for each of the individuals.

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