



Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1980

AT
202-633-2007

The Department of Justice today filed a civil antitrust suit alleging that a county bar association in Alabama violated Section 1 of the Sherman Act by conspiring to restrain competition through formulation, publication and dissemination of a fee schedule for lawyers' services.

Attorney General Benjamin R. Civiletti said the suit, naming the Geneva County Bar Association as defendant, was filed in U.S. District Court in Montgomery, Alabama.

The Association's members are attorneys admitted to the Alabama bar who practice in Geneva County.

Sanford M. Litvack, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division, said the suit charged the bar association and co-conspirators with formulating, agreeing upon, distributing and utilizing a schedule of fees to be charged for their services.

The complaint seeks to enjoin the association from continuing the conspiracy. It also seeks destruction of the fee schedules and asks that the association be prohibited from any further efforts to develop a fee schedule.

#