



# Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1980

AT  
202-633-2007

The Department of Justice today filed a civil antitrust suit alleging that the New York County Lawyers' Association conspired to restrict the trust and estate services which corporate fiduciaries may provide to the public in competition with lawyers.

Attorney General Benjamin R. Civiletti said the complaint, which alleges a violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act, was filed in U. S. District Court in New York City.

Sanford M. Litvack, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division, said the complaint alleges that beginning as early as 1966 and continuing until at least August 1980, the defendant conspired with unnamed co-conspirators to restrain competition between lawyers and corporate fiduciaries by entering into an agreement with the Corporate Fiduciaries Association of New York City to outline activities of corporate fiduciaries and attorneys in providing of trust and estate services.

The complaint charges that the agreement prohibited the fiduciaries from performing certain functions not considered to be part of the practice of law.

According to the complaint, the primary providers of trust and estate services in New York County are attorneys and corporate fiduciaries such as banks and trust institutions permitted by law to serve as executor of an estate or trustee of a trust.

The complaint seeks injunctive relief to prevent the defendant from continuing or renewing the conspiracy or engaging in similar activities in the future.