



# Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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The Department of Justice today filed a proposed consent decree that would terminate its civil antitrust suit against seven lawyers in Enterprise, Alabama.

Attorney General William French Smith said the proposed decree, which was filed in U.S. District Court in Montgomery, Alabama, will become final upon approval by the court.

William F. Baxter, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division, said the civil suit, filed December 9, 1980, alleged that the defendants and others violated the Sherman Act by conspiring to fix fees by formulating and disseminating a fee schedule for legal and related services provided in their community.

The suit named as defendants Gary L. McAliley, Daniel F. Carmichael, John C. Dowling, Thomas E. Haigh, S. Mark Jordan, D. Bruce McClean and Paul Young.

The proposed decree would enjoin the defendants from fixing legal fees, from formulating, publishing and circulating fee schedules, and from communicating about such fees, except in certain circumstances such as joint representation. The decree also requires the defendants to destroy any existing copies of fee schedules.

In accordance with the Antitrust Procedures and Penalties Act of 1974, a competitive impact statement regarding the decree has been filed with the court. Copies

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of this statement and of the proposed decree are available upon request in the Legal Procedure Unit, Room 7416, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20530 and are available for inspection in the Office of the Clerk of the United States District Court in Montgomery, Alabama.

Comments to the Department and to the court regarding the decree are invited from members of the public within the next 60 days. They should be directed to John W. Poole, Jr., Chief, Special Litigation Section, Antitrust Division, United States Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20530.

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