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U.S. Department of Jul

**Antitrust Division** 

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Liberty Square Building 450 Fifth Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20530

June 7, 2012

## HAND-DELIVERED

Honorable Denise L. Cote United States District Court Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street, Room 1610 New York, NY 10007

Re: United States, et al. v. Apple, Inc., et al., Case No. 12-CIV-2826 (DLC)

Dear Judge Cote:

The United States asks that the Court excuse costly Federal Register publication of the voluminous public comments submitted in this matter, and instead authorize electronic publication for good cause, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 16(d). The United States has conferred with all parties to this action and this motion is unopposed. Attached as "Exhibit 1" is a Proposed Order permitting the United States to satisfy its statutory publication obligations by posting public comments on the Antitrust Division's website, in tandem with Federal Register publication of the relevant internet address.

The United States filed its complaint in this case on April 11, 2012, along with a proposed Final Judgment with respect to Hachette Book Group, Inc., HarperCollins Publishers L.L.C., and Simon & Schuster, Inc. As required by the Antitrust Procedures and Penalties Act, 15 U.S.C. § (b)-(h) (the "Tunney Act"), the United States caused notices to be published in the Federal Register, the Washington Post and the New York Post, providing instructions for public comment on the proposed Final Judgment. Although the 60-day comment period will not close until June 25, 2012, the United States already has received more than 150 comments.

As required by the Tunney Act, the United States will file with the Court and serve on all parties to this action a Response to Comments, which will include copies of all comments submitted, as an attachment. The Response to Comments will be published in the *Federal Register*. The Tunney Act also requires that the comments be made available to the public, which, before the Tunney Act was amended in 2004, the United States was required to accomplish through publication in the *Federal Register*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Given the volume of public comments received and ECF restrictions on attachment file-size, the United States seeks to file and serve comments via digital files submitted on physical media.

However, the Tunney Act now authorizes the United States to publish comments by "alternative means" pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 16(d) when the costs of *Federal Register* publication exceed the benefits thereof. In this case, the United States already has received over 200 pages of comments, most of which will require photographic treatment for *Federal Register* publication at a rate of \$522 per page, <sup>2</sup> generating publication costs of more than \$100,000. The United States anticipates the receipt of a similar or greater volume of comments before the closing of the public comment period, on June 25, 2012.

Further, publication in the *Federal Register* does not confer any significant public interest benefit that cannot be better served by electronic publication. Indeed, at the time of passage of the 2004 amendment authorizing alternative publication, Senator Leahy of the Judiciary Committee noted that *Federal Register* publication can offer "little benefit, because those materials are, if anything, more accessible on the Web than in a library." 150 CONG. REC. 6,328 (2004). Likewise, Senator Kohl opined that alternatives such as "posting the proposed decrees electronically, [] are sufficient to inform interested persons of the proposed consent decree." 150 CONG. REC. 6,332 (2004).

Recognizing the benefits of electronic publication, other courts have excused Federal Register publication of Tunney Act comments and/or attachments in favor of electronic publication in several recent cases. See United States v. American Express Company, et. al., No. 10-CV-4496-NGG (E.D.N.Y. June 20, 2011) (attached as Exhibit 2); United States v. KeySpan Corp., No. 1:10-cv-01415-WHP (S.D.N.Y. June 28, 2010) (attached as Exhibit 3); United States, et al. v. Ticketmaster Entertainment, Inc., et al., No. 1:10-cv-00139-RMC (D.D.C. June 15, 2010) (attached as Exhibit 4).

Finally, electronic publication also will ensure timely filing of the United States' motion for entry of the proposed Final Judgment. Prior to filing its motion for entry, the United States must satisfy all of the Tunney Act procedures, including making comments available to the public. Relief from the obligation to publish comments in the *Federal Register*, a process not under the control of the United States and subject to delay, will ensure that the United States can meet the Court's July 27, 2012 deadline.

Accordingly, the United States asks that the Court excuse publication of the public comments in the *Federal Register* and, instead, allow comments to be posted on the Antitrust Division website in conjunction with *Federal Register* publication of the internet address at which comments can be read and downloaded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel McCuaig

Counsel for the United States

cc: Provided electronically to all parties in this action.

Granted. June 11, 2012

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Government Printing Office Circular Letter No. 777 (July 2, 2010), available at: http://www.gpo.gov/customers/letters/777.htm.

# EXHIBIT 1

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Civil Action No. 12-CV-2826 (DLC)
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# [PROPOSED] ORDER

The Court, having considered the application of the United States, finds that good cause exists pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 16(d) to excuse the publication Tunney Public Comments in the Federal Register;

GRANTS the United States' application to excuse Federal Register publication of Tunney Public Comments; and,

AUTHORIZES, as an alternative method of public dissemination, the publication in the Federal Register of a statement providing the location on the United States Department of Justice, Antitrust Division website where the Tunney Public Comments may be viewed and downloaded.

SO ORDERED, this	day of	_, 2012.	•

# EXHIBIT 2

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, STATE OF CONNECTICUT, STATE OF IOWA, STATE OF MARYLAND, STATE OF MICHIGAN, STATE OF MISSOURI, STATE OF OHIO, STATE OF TEXAS, STATE OF ILLINOIS, STATE OF TENNESSEE, STATE OF MONTANA, STATE OF NEBRASKA, STATE OF IDAHO, STATE OF VERMONT, STATE OF UTAH, STATE OF ARIZONA, STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, STATE OF HAWAII, and STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,

Plaintiffs.

-against-

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY, AMERICAN **EXPRESS TRAVEL RELATED SERVICES** COMPANY, INC., MASTERCARD INTERNATIONAL INCORPORATED, and VISA INC.,

Defendants.

NICHOLAS G. GARAUFIS, United States District Judge.

On October 4, 2010, the United States of America and several states (the "State Plaintiffs") filed a Complaint against Defendants, alleging various violations of antitrust law under the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1. (Compl. (Docket Entry # 1).) The same day, the United States and several State Plaintiffs filed a Notice of Settlement with respect to Defendants MasterCard International Incorporated and Visa Inc. ("MasterCard and Visa"), proposing a consent judgment. (Docket Entry # 4.) Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 16(d), the United States then solicited public comments regarding the proposed consent judgment against MasterCard and Visa. During this comment period, the United States received six comments, some with voluminous attachments, totaling over 400 pages. (Docket Entry # 119-1.) Under 15 U.S.C.

U.S. DISTRICT COURT E.D.N.Y.

★ JUN 2.2 2011

**BROOKLYN OFFICE** ORDER

10-CV-4496 (NGG) (RER)

Case 1:10-cv-04496-NGG -RER Document 121 Filed 06/22/11 Page 2 of 2

EXHIBIT 2

§ 16(d)(2), the United States is required to publish these comments in the Federal Register

unless, "[u]pon application by the United States, the district court . . . find[s] that the expense of

publication in the Federal Register exceeds the public interest benefits to be gained from such

publication."

The United States now seeks to excuse publication of the public comments in the Federal

Register. (Docket Entry # 120.) The United States claims that it "would incur expenses of

approximately \$200,000 to publish" all of the public comments in the Federal Register. (Id. at 2-

3.) The United States has also stated that it "has filed all public comments, including the exhibits

at issue, with this Court [and that the] United States will also post all comments and exhibits on

the public website of the Antitrust Division of the United States Department of Justice." (Id. at

2.) No party has objected to the United States' request. (Id. at 1.)

Nonetheless, given the relative permanence of the Federal Register, it is desirable for the

United States to at least identify the electronic location of the public comments by a notice in the

Federal Register. Accordingly, the United States is excused from publishing the substance of the

public comments in the Federal Register, see 15 U.S.C. § 16(d)(2), except for a notice stating

that it received six public comments in this case, and that the comments and the United States'

responses are available on the DOJ's website. In mentioning that this material is available on the

DOJ's website, the United States should also include an appropriate, permanent website address

pointing to those comments online. The United States shall also certify to the court that it has

published such notice by proof of publication filed on the court's docket.

SO ORDERED.

s/Nicholas G. Garaufis

Dated: Brooklyn, New York

June 20 . 2011

NICHOLAS G. GARAUFIS

United States District Judge

Case 1:10-cv-04496-NGG -RER Document 120-2 Filed 06/14/11 Page 1 of 1
Case 1:10-cv-01415-WHP Document 23 Filed 06/28/2010 Page 1 of 1

EXHIBIT 3

USDC SDNY
DOCUMENT
ELECTRONICALLY FILED

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COUNTY
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK E FILED:

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Civil Action No.: 1:10-cv-01415-WHP
Plaintiff,

Hon. William H. Pauley III

V.

KEYSPAN CORPORATION,

ORDER

Defendant.

The Court, having considered the application of the United States, finds that good cause exists pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 16(d)(2) to excuse the publication of the attachments to the Comments of Mr. Nelson M. Stewart in the *Federal Register*,

GRANTS the United States's Unopposed Motion to Excuse Federal Register Publication of Attachments to the Stewart Comments, and

AUTHORIZES, as an alternative method of public dissemination, the publication in the Federal Register of the Stewart Comments with a link to the United States Department of Justice website where the attachments to those comments can be viewed and downloaded.

IT IS SO ORDERED by the Court, this 28 day of Twe 2010

Hon, William H. Pauley, III

# EXHIBIT 4

<u>Evans, Amanda</u>

From: DCD\_ECFNotice@dcd.uscourts.gov Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2010 5:10 PM

Sent: Tuesday, June 15, 2010 5:10 PM DCD\_ECFNotice@dcd.uscourts.gov

Subject: Activity in Case 1:10-cv-00139-RMC UNITED STATES OF AMERICA et al v.
TICKETMASTER ENTERTAINMENT, INC. et al Order on Motion for Order

This is an automatic e-mail message generated by the CM/ECF system. Please DO NOT RESPOND to this e-mail because the mail box is unattended.

\*\*\*NOTE TO PUBLIC ACCESS USERS\*\*\* Judicial Conference of the United States policy permits attorneys of record and parties in a case (including pro se litigants) to receive one free electronic copy of all documents filed electronically, if receipt is required by law or directed by the filer. PACER access fees apply to all other users. To avoid later charges, download a copy of each document during this first viewing. However, if the referenced document is a transcript, the free copy and 30 page limit do not apply.

### **U.S. District Court**

# District of Columbia

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA et al v. TICKETMASTER ENTERTAINMENT, INC.

# **Notice of Electronic Filing**

The following transaction was entered on 6/15/2010 at 5:10 PM and filed on 6/15/2010

Case Name:

et al

Case Number:

1:10-cv-00139-RMC

Filer:

Document

No document attached

Number:

# **Docket Text:**

MINUTE ORDER granting [12] Unopposed Motion for Order Excusing the Publication of the Attachments to the Comments in the Federal Register. The United States shall ensure that the Federal Register indicate that these attachments are available, specifying the website address where these attachments can be located. Signed by Judge Rosemary M. Collyer on 6/15/10. (Icrmc1)

# 1:10-ev-00139-RMC Notice has been electronically mailed to:

Michael G Egge michael egge@lw.com, amy.gibson@lw.com

Aaron D. Hoag <u>aaron.hoag@usdoj.gov</u>, <u>amanda.evans@usdoj.gov</u>, <u>andrew.ewalt@usdoj.gov</u>, ann.blaylock@usdoj.gov, ethan.glass@usdoj.gov, gina.talamona@usdoj.gov, john.read@usdoj.gov

Jennifer Lynn Giordano jennifer.giordano@lw.com, amy.gibson@lw.com

# 1:10-cy-00139-RMC Notice will be delivered by other means to::

Case 1:10-cv-04496-NGG -RER Document 120-3 Filed 06/14/11 Page 2 of 2

Joshua N. Holian LATHAM & WATKINS 505 Montgomery Street San Francisco, CA 94111-2562

Karen E. Silverman LATHAM & WATKINS 505 Montgomery Street San Francisco, CA 94111-2562 **EXHIBIT 4**