

From: Suzanne Fritz [mailto:suzygfri[REDACTED]]
Sent: Sunday, June 24, 2012 3:38 PM
To: Read, John [John.Read@ATR.USDOJ.gov]
Subject: RE: United States v. Apple, Inc., et al., 12-cv-2826 (DLV) (SDNY). Comments on Proposed Final Judgment as to Defendants Hachette, HarperCollins, and Simon & Schuster

RE: United States v. Apple, Inc., et al., 12-cv-2826 (DLV) (SDNY). Comments on Proposed Final Judgment as to Defendants Hachette, HarperCollins, and Simon & Schuster

Dear Mr. Read:

First, in the interests of fair disclosure, I am a BAM! employee and an even longer-time customer who thoroughly enjoys books and bookstores. As such, I am writing to ask you to reconsider, rethink, and substantially modify the proposed settlement referenced in the above case so that it will be fair to all parties concerned.

Based on the many articles out there, it seems terribly unfair and illogical for the Justice Department to grant a de facto monopoly to Amazon via this ruling. What has happened to the DOJ's historical precedent of breaking up monopolies and leveling the playing field? Has that fallen by the wayside nowadays? I simply cannot believe that to be true.

Browsing in bookstores opens the minds of everyone, from children to adults, to new ideas, new thinking, discussions with others, and exposes us to different viewpoints, which can help us grow as a society and country and move forward in a positive way. In my mind, bookstores are an important part of the rising tide that will lift all boats in the sea of knowledge. It would be very sad indeed, for this delightful community activity to disappear from our cultural landscape, and that might well be an unintended consequence if this proposed ruling becomes final. Are you sure that you want that for yourself and all of us?

A fair playing field for all of us in the bookselling and publishing industries can only benefit the public, and I hope you will give every consideration to creating a balanced and equitable settlement in this case - a landmark settlement that will establish a solid precedent for years to come. I wish you every success in this endeavor, which is a common cause for all of us who enjoy reading.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Graham Fritz

3343 Overton Road

Mountain Brook, AL 35223-2892

205-915-
4542
;