

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, DC 20530

The Honorable Jim Jordan Chairman Committee on the Judiciary U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Jordan:

This responds to your letter to the Department of Justice (Department), dated September 10, 2024, regarding *United States v. Google LLC*. The Department appreciated the opportunity to provide your staff a summary of the complaint the Department filed on January 24, 2023.

As stated in the Department's filings, the Department's ongoing civil antitrust lawsuit against Google alleges that it has monopolized multiple digital advertising technology product markets in violation of Sections 1 and 2 of the Sherman Act. Furthermore, the complaint alleges that Google's monopolistic grip on these markets—including through acquisitions, as well as forcing publishers and advertisers to use its products, thwarting their ability to use competing products—has harmed innovation, the open internet, news publishers, and competition. As demonstrated by the Department's efforts in this and other antitrust matters, we will vigorously enforce our antitrust laws to protect consumers, safeguard competition, and ensure economic fairness and opportunity for all, no matter the industry or company.

In your letter, you asked about the Department's efforts to safeguard our antitrust enforcement efforts from conflicts of interest. The Department is deeply committed to upholding the rule of law, which is the foundation of our democracy and the integrity of our legal system. Protecting the Department's work from improper influence or the appearance thereof defines who we are as public servants and ensures that we treat like cases alike. Our adherence to these principles, policies, and norms in everything we do, including antitrust enforcement, is what safeguards the independence of the Department from partisan influence. For these reasons and others, it is the longstanding policy of the Department to speak through our filings in ongoing matters.

¹ 15 U.S.C. §§ 1, 2.

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We appreciate the benefit of having your views on this matter. The Department is deeply committed to protecting and promoting competition in all industries, including in digital markets.

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

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Ted Schroeder Deputy Assistant Attorney General

cc:

The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515