

From: [Janet Ciccone](#) [ciccon[REDACTED]]
To: [Read, John](#) [John.Read@ATR.USDOJ.gov]
Subject: citizen comment on US v. Apple, Inc., et al.
Date: Monday, June 04, 2012 10:33:12 PM

June 4, 2012

John R. Read, Esq.
Chief, Litigation III
Antitrust Division, United States Department of Justice
450 5th Street, NW, Suite 4000
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Read:

I write with reference to the law suit United States v. Apple, Inc., et al., 12-cv-2826 (DLC) (SDNY). Comments on Proposed Final Judgment as to Defendants Hachette, HarperCollins and Simon & Schuster.

I am very concerned about the proposed settlement of this case, which I see as allowing Amazon to continue its predatory practices that are allowing it to gain a monopoly in the book sales trade.

I believe Amazon's practice of undercutting bookstores prices, by taking a loss on book sales, has already driven Borders, a brick-and-mortar store, out of business. If allowed to continue, I believe Amazon intends to take over the market for all books, both print and e-published, and drive all physical bookstores out of business in the U.S. and perhaps in other countries as well.

I find this unacceptable, especially here in the U.S. where we have always believed in healthy competition in the marketplace to keep prices competitive.

I urge you to allow Apple to be a valid competitor in the e-book market with Amazon, and to allow publishers to participate with Apple as they wish.

Already, the appearance of Apple's option in the market caused Amazon to pay authors a higher royalty rate to be competitive with Apple.

As it is, I believe the Justice Department plan supports Amazon's attempt to form a monopoly, and prevents the publishers and Apple from competing.

As a published author in the past who hopes to sell an e-book license to a publisher in the near future, I hope you can understand my concern.

Sincerely,

Janet Ciccone
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Columbus, Ohio 43221