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John Read
Chief, Litigation III Section
Antitrust Division
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Chief Read:

As an artist, an avid reader and a concerned tax-paying citizen of a nation based on free enterprise balanced with reason and democratic opportunity, I hope you will consider the needs of so many, in relation to the profits of so few.

Publishers and an increasing numbers of the general public know that e-books have a cost of production. Artists and editors, publicists and booksellers work to create a valuable product that should be offered with the spirit of competition and choice.

I am glad to be a part of the success of Amazon and other online retailers, however, this does not mean I want to these giants to choose what is offered to me nor do I wish to lose the joy of sharing interests and ideas with local retailers.

Please consider the importance of a fair marketplace as you examine the possibilities surrounding publishers setting the prices on e-books. So often we are presented with the comment that less intrusion in product competition is the better choice. I ask you, is this one of those moments that will define freedom in a competitive market?

Thank you for your time.

Best Wishes-

Claudia A. Shugert

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