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LITIGATION III, ANTITRUST DIV.
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

15 May 2012

Dear Mr. Read,

I am writing to you concerning the Department of Justice's investigation of Apple and five major publishers with regard to alleged collusion and price-fixing.

I'm a full-time, self-supporting writer who's been licensing my books to publishers for over twenty years. I hope to continue doing so for many years to come. Like many writers, I also now self-publish some of my work in ebook format, bypassing the traditional publishing system entirely; I hope to continue doing this, too, for many years to come.

My interest, therefore, is in seeing *all* aspects of the rapidly-changing publishing industry thrive. As a writer, I benefit most when all potential venues for my work grow fruitfully, further develop their markets, and innovate to attract still more readers.

It is up to the legal system to prove whether or not antitrust violations have occurred. But after I read the letter sent to the DoJ by the Association of Authors' Representatives (AAR), I felt compelled to write this letter to clarify an important point: My position as a professional writer is *actually* that **breaking the law is not a reasonable reaction to being faced with aggressive business competition**. And only an organization with a very poor grasp of business *and* of ethics would think otherwise.

Sincerely,

Laura Resnick