

From: Tom Bowen [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: Monday, June 18, 2012 5:13 PM
To: Read, John [John.Read@ATR.USDOJ.gov]
Subject: A Letter concerning DOJ litigation against publishers

John Read
Chief, Litigation III Section
Antitrust Division
US Department of Justice
450 5th St, NW, Suite 4000
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Read,

My name is Tom Bowen and I am writing on behalf of the company I work for and for the numerous booksellers I work with on a day-to-day basis. Our company, my family and my profession are asking that you preserve the Agency Model for e-book pricing that is currently in place. Oren Teicher from the ABA has effectively stated the argument for keeping Agency in place and the empirical data shows that Agency is good for competition and not in fact anticompetitive. I am a dedicated publishing professional who greatly values a marketplace that is fair and competitive, where any and all talented, hard-working entrepreneurs can thrive regardless of size. A diverse and competitive publishing landscape is good for the creators of content, for the seller of that content and for the consumers of that content. The published word and the importance of the ideas it purveys deserves an open and even marketplace, and great care should be taken in preserving a level playing field. In my review of the case against the named publishers, I can only reach the conclusion that the only beneficiary of a DOJ victory would be the apparent engine behind the litigation - Amazon.com. It would secure for Amazon, through their ability and stated intent to loss-leader published content, a monopoly that in the long run will benefit no one, perhaps not even Amazon itself. On these grounds, I ask that you please discontinue your legal proceedings against the publishers and Apple regarding Agency pricing.

Thank you,
Tom Bowen
Publisher Representative
Fujii Associates, Inc.
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Dallas, TX 75287