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June 18, 2012

John Road
Chief, Litigation III Section
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U.S. Department of Justice
450 5th Street, NW, Suite 4000
Washington, DC 20530

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

Dear Mr. Road:

I have been reading much lately about some legislation that is in the works that punishes book publishers and bookstores in favor of Amazon.com. This is ludicrous. How can my government be taking the side of Goliath against David? What you are doing will support a single company that has done more to destroy the independent bookstore than even this awful economic climate? I am a reader of both print and e-format books and I do not want to have to go to Amazon to get what I need. Stop this right now. if you fail to take action, you will be hurting the dissemination of ideas, creative thought, political discussion for a long time, perhaps forever. When all these things fall into the hands of one corporation, the suppression of ideas might easily follow. Or perhaps, once there is no one to oppose them, they will decide to raise prices beyond what common people can afford.

Add to this that the government is reported to be purchasing Kindle readers for our troops and you further embolden this monopoly. I am outraged and want it stopped immediately.

Thanking you for your attention to this matter, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Marie J McAndrews