

**From:** Harry Hertless  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/15/02 1:19pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

15128 W Amelia Drive  
Goodyear, Arizona 85338

January 15, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

Please finalize the antitrust case settlement as soon as possible and quell opposition from the nine states still attempting to continue litigation. This case has dragged on far too long. It has been conceived from political interests instead of sound economic ones and therefore has been flawed from the beginning.

I am a proponent of free enterprise and believe that government should stay out of big business. Especially in this case where a company has been pushing the drive for innovation and growth in the technology sector. The last thing our ailing economy needs is lengthy litigation that hinders Microsoft's development. The terms of the settlement are more than fair, as Microsoft has agreed to disclose internal interfaces and protocols to competitors. They have also agreed to grant computer makers broad new rights to configure Windows so as to promote non-Microsoft software programs.

It is in the best interest of the American Public for the settlement to occur. I urge your office to help make this a reality. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Harry Hertless