

From: michelle(a)arden.org
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 1:06pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Department of Justice,

I am a computer executive with over 20 years of experience working in Silicon Valley or some of the best software and hardware companies in the industry - Sun, Silicon Graphics, Novell, and many computer startups - some even successful.

I am writing to express my dismay and extreme disappointment with the settlement of the Dept of Justice on the Microsoft antitrust case.

To anyone in the computer industry - or negotiating with Microsoft, as I have done many times - over the past twenty years, the strategy of the company is clear. Microsoft uses predatory, unfair, and patently illegal processes to compete. I have seen them blatantly ignore non-disclosure agreements and copy technology to put small companies out of business without shame or excuse. I have seen them acknowledge that there is no need for them to use fair business practices because of their dominance of the computer industry. I have seen many small companies fail - and many large companies decide not to invest - in technology development areas that would benefit consumers, all because these potential developers have determined that Microsoft would unfairly compete and render their efforts useless.

I urge you to reconsider the settlement conclusions and impose a stronger Microsoft remedy that shows that the United States Government will not permit unfair monopolies and continued monopolistic behavior of companies within our borders.

Sincerely,

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