

From: Jeffrey Zimmerman
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am opposed to the proposed settlement in the Microsoft antitrust trial. I feel that the current proposed settlement does not fully redress the actions committed by Microsoft in the past, nor inhibit their ability to commit similar actions in the future.

I am a United States citizen and, as a businessman (small private law practice) an end-user of computer products. I have been using personal computers as a business tool for over 15 years. I am experienced with simple DOS command lines, Windows networking and much in between.

I am opposed to any resolution of the Microsoft anti-trust lawsuit that does not break up Microsoft into several disparate companies.

Daily I experience limitations in my computer systems, many of which I can attribute to the lack of viable alternatives to Windows. I have no alternative operating systems which have appropriate applications for my business, so I must use Microsoft products. The too-close relationship between Microsoft's operating systems its the major applications means that I must struggle to make my product fit Microsoft's model when both intelligence and practice dictate otherwise. Most frightening of all is the insistent sense of privacy invasion which comes from the constant demand my Microsoft for ever-more information about me and my practice, matters I am required by law, common sense and decency to maintain as confidential.

I am aware of no amount of monitoring which can "manage" Microsoft to make it less invasive, more creative and more flexible. Only by re-creating the company itself to be on a par with other end-user providers can I find the options that fit my needs and the needs of my clients. Microsoft's surge towards uniformity has not produced a vibrant office environment, it has produced Microsoft's invasive and expensive environment; a diverse, competitive field will be much more likely to produce the quality tools and services.

Thank you.

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