From: Lydia G. Rich
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 7:01pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

35 Hyatt Drive
Warren, PA 16365-3527

January 10, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to express my support in the recent settlement between Microsoft and the federal government. It is with sincere hope that this is the end of any litigation on the federal level.

Considering the terms of the agreement, Microsoft did not get off easy at all. In fact, due to this agreement, Microsoft has to make several important changes to the way that they handle their business. For example, Microsoft has agreed to disclose and document for use by its competitors various interfaces that are internal to Windows' operating system products. This alone is a first in an antitrust settlement. Microsoft has also agreed to make available to its competitors, any protocols implemented in Windows' operating system products that are used to interoperate natively with any Microsoft server operating system.

With the many terms of the agreement, I see no reason for the government to pursue further litigation on any level against Microsoft. Not only would it be a waste of time, but a waste of money as well. I fully trust that you would agree. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lydia Rich

cc: Senator Rick Santorum