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Kirkland, WA 98034

January 28, 2002

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

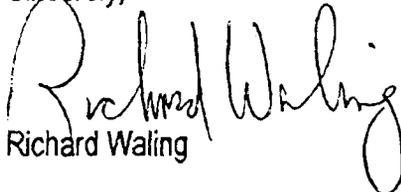
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

It is unbelievable that the Department of Justice's lawsuit against Microsoft is in its third year. Parties envious of Microsoft's success brought the suit. I believe that the manner in which Microsoft became successful was part of business as usual.

Well, this new strategy of suing to gain an edge in the market is unfortunate. It breeds a lack of corporate responsibility and the need to innovate. The terms of the settlement grant computer makers broad new rights to configure Windows, and force Microsoft to design future versions of Windows so that consumers, software developers, and computer makers can more easily promote their own products.

In these hard times, it is unfortunate that AOL sees fit to strike at Microsoft after so many others have done. Business is difficult enough without endless lawsuits. I am an unemployed software tester and abhor what is going on in this. AOL has no gripes. It is number 1 in it's field. This is outrageous and untimely. Let the consumer dictate what is to become of Microsoft. That's supposed to be the way capitalism works

Sincerely,


Richard Waling