

=== COVER PAGE ===

TO: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: 12023071454

FROM: MAHDAVI N

FAX: 2125460990

TEL: 2125469058

COMMENT: URGENT

**430 E 56th Street # 5C**  
**New York, NY 10022**

January 11, 2002

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

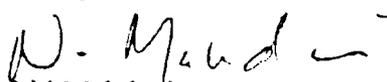
Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

Thank you for settling the Microsoft case. I greatly appreciate your willingness to get our economy back on the right track. The settlement is adequate, and no more action should be taken in this case.

Under the settlement agreement, Microsoft has made numerous concessions and compromises in its efforts to bring this matter to a close. The highlight of this agreement is Microsoft's submission to a government appointed, three person technical oversight committee which will have oversight over the company's engineering and business practices. Furthermore, Microsoft, as a result of this settlement, has given up its right to intellectual property protection by agreeing to license any technology, which may be called into question by a competitor. Another major concession by Microsoft is its willingness to adopt a uniform pricing and licensing agreement with its partner computer manufactures and software competitors. This concession will force Microsoft to end its favored agreements with companies and disallow it from engaging in retaliatory pricing with companies that do not carry its software.

This is a settlement agreement that was completed after three years of litigation, and several months of intense negotiations with a court appointed moderator. This should be the final federal action on this matter. I look forward to a swift end of this case.

Sincerely,

  
Nahid Mahdavi