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January 23, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice,
950 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC, 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

I am pleased to know that the federal government has reached a settlement with Microsoft. After three years of litigation, the settlement is fair to both sides and should be beneficial to consumers.

The agreement is extremely comprehensive and mandates many adjustments in the way Microsoft carried out their business in the past. Microsoft has agreed not to enter into any agreements obligating any third party to distribute any portion of Windows exclusively. Also, the company has agreed not to enter into agreements relating to Windows that obligate any software developer to refrain from developing or promoting software that competes with Windows. Finally, the government assured compliance by negotiating for the creation of a Technical Committee to monitor Microsoft's compliance.

I believe Microsoft and Bill Gates have done tremendous good for the United States. Their products are used by millions of citizens and help make the economy stronger and more efficient. I commend you for your efforts to settle this case and hope no further action will be taken on the federal level.

I must say that I am very happy that Bill Gates is an American and that he was not a citizen of another foreign country as if he was, we would be sending checks from the United States to that county to purchase the excellent products that Bill Gates and Microsoft has delivered to our good citizens.

Sincerely,

Robert M Ellis

Robert M. Ellis, President
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CC: Representative Ric Keller