From: Pat Montgomery
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/6/01 10:39am
Subject: Microsoft settlement

To the Microsoft antitrust attorneys,

I strongly object to the terms of settlement of the Microsoft case.

MS was proven in court and by appellate review to be a monopoly (which is no crime), but to have repeatedly and to the profound harm of its competition, abused this monopoly power (which is a crime).

There are two issues:

1) Justice: They clearly broke the law. To be let off with a handslap sends a clear and unambiguous message that they can get away with it, to their shareholder's advantage and the disadvantage of other businesses competing in their ever-expanding fields. This encourages them to do it again, knowing they are big enough to get away with it. I don't think this is what T.Roosevelt meant by the word 'bully'.

2) Policy: Who in their right mind would now invest in a field of business that might *someday* be a field that MS decides it wants to dominate?
The effects on competition, the putative underpinning of our economy, are devastating.

This was a very unfortunate decision.

Pat Montgomery
28818 108th Ave. SE
Auburn WA 98092
patmontg@attbi.com