



Department of Justice

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PILOT PROGRAM ANNOUNCED TO EXPEDITE BUSINESS REVIEW PROCESS

WASHINGTON, D.C -- The Department of Justice today announced that it has adopted a procedure to expedite the processing of business review requests with respect to joint ventures and information exchange programs.

Under the Department's long-standing business review procedure, persons concerned about the legality under the antitrust laws of proposed business conduct can request the Department's Antitrust Division to state its current enforcement intentions with respect to that conduct.

The pilot program being announced today is intended to expedite the business review process. If persons seeking business review determinations voluntarily provide certain specified information and documents to the Department when the initial request is submitted, the Department will use its best efforts to respond to those requests within sixty to ninety days.

Charles A. James, Acting Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division, said, "This pilot program will increase the value of the business review procedure to the business community by offering more timely guidance as to the Department's enforcement intentions. Due to the voluntary nature of the program, and information sought, the pilot program will

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