

From: Deborah Kops [mailto:dko[REDACTED]]
Sent: Saturday, June 23, 2012 8:53 AM
To: Read, John [John.Read@ATR.USDOJ.gov]
Subject: The proposed settlement of the lawsuit against Apple and five U.S. publishers

Dear Judge Cote,

I strongly object to the settlement proposed by the Department of Justice, which will allow Amazon to resume its predatory pricing. Amazon' steep discounts on e-books will discourage people from patronizing independent bookstores and make it difficult for small publishers to operate profitably as well. I write nonfiction books for children. Most recently, I wrote *The Great Molasses Flood*. I launched my book at an independent bookstore in Concord, Massachusetts. Without bookstores like the Concord Bookshop it would be very difficult for publishers like Charlesbridge--my publisher--to get their books into the hands of readers. Children's books in particular need to be displayed in a bricks and mortar store where readers can discover them. Amazon's pricing greatly threatens bricks and mortar stores.

With thanks for your kind attention I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Deborah Kops