

ORIGINAL

BAKER STREET GROUP, INC.
16476 BERNARDO CENTER DRIVE
SUITE 221
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92128
California Private Investigator License 22086

Telephone (858) 673-5400

Fax (858)
673-1050

October 13, 2008

Donald S. Clark
Office of the Secretary
Federal Trade Commission
Room H-135
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20580



Re: Complaint and Consent Order
FTC File No 081-0133 In re: Reed Elsevier and ChoicePoint

Dear Mr. Clark:

I am President of Baker Street Group, Inc., a private investigative firm licensed by California. Our client list is varied and includes various levels of government agencies (including the Federal Trade Commission) law firms, large and small corporations, and other businesses of all sizes, as well as private citizens.

Over the past thirteen years of our existence we have relied on the use of proprietary database resources as an integral and necessary tool in our trade. We have watched competition shrink as database provider companies have consolidated. We have watched prices increase as competition has lessened. It is our fear that the acquisition of ChoicePoint by Reed Elsevier will further dampen competition and thus squeeze us small businessmen who are struggling in this precarious economy.

The Commission is rightly concerned about the affect this acquisition might have on law enforcement. However, there is a huge number of properly licensed private investigators in the United States which rely on these resources who also need to be considered by the Commission.

I urge the Commission to take whatever steps are necessary to discourage a dilution of competition in the emerging arena of the sale and resale of public record data.

Sincerely,

Darwin D. Wisdom