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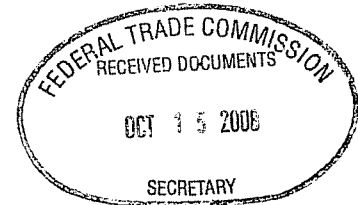
**GEORGE DAY**  
Day's Investigations, L.L.C.

**Mailing Address**  
P.O. Box 4411  
Houma, Louisiana 70361

Phone: (985)-876-9062  
Beeper: (985)-872-8589  
Fax: (985)-223-4269  
Toll Free: 1-888-876-9062

**Business Address**  
1315 Levee Drive  
Houma, Louisiana 70360

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



October 13, 2008

Re: Proposed Consent Order  
In the Matter of Reed Elsevier and ChoicePoint, FTC File No. 081-0133

Dear Mr. Clark:

I'm writing on behalf of ..... regarding the proposed consent order and acquisition of ChoicePoint by Reed Elsevier. Our association is comprised of investigators who provide critical services to government agencies, attorneys, state and US courts and others. We rely extensively on services provided by both Reed Elsevier and ChoicePoint and their subsidiaries to assist us in serving these clients.

Over the past several years there has been tremendous consolidation among providers of public records services. This proposed acquisition will further reduce competition in the industry. Although there are several providers of data services in the marketplace, they are resellers of data provided by the respondents.

The Commission's complaint found that this acquisition would be anticompetitive and a violation of antitrust law in the market for the sale of public records information to law enforcement agencies. The same effects would be felt in the market for sale of public records to the private sector.



**Insurance Fraud  
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State of Louisiana Board of Private Investigator Examiners \* Member of Louisiana Private Investigators Association, Inc.  
\* Member of National Association of Legal Investigators \* Member of National Association of Investigative Specialist \*

It is important to have access to data from several suppliers during the conduct of an investigation. Limited resources reduce both the quality and quantity of information available. And our members, many of whom are small businesses, do not have the financial weight to bargain effectively with large entities in a non-competitive environment.

We urge that the Commission not approve the acquisition until respondents can divest themselves of public records services provided to private industry as well as to law enforcement.

Unless an appropriate remedy is offered, our members and their clients will suffer irreparable harm. When competition is reduced, incentives for innovation are reduced, prices rise and service suffers.

Sincerely,

GEORGE DAY  
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