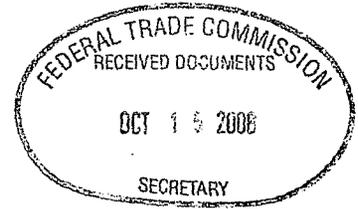


# BRADY INVESTIGATIONS

ORIGINAL

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

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 Brady Investigations regarding the proposed consent order and acquisition of ChoicePoint by Reed Elsevier. We provide the following critical services to, attorneys, insurance companies, state and federal courts, and consumers:

- Verification of individuals or entities conducting transactions with consumers
- Verifying information for employment, housing or insurance
- Locate assets for judgment and child support enforcement
- Probate Research - Locate heirs
- Locate defendants and witnesses for service of process
- Investigations in anticipation of litigation
- Compliance with the orders of any court
- Identity theft investigations

We rely **extensively** on the information collected by both Reed Elsevier and ChoicePoint, and their subsidiaries, and resold to data providers used by Brady Investigations and licensed private investigators nationwide to assist us in serving our clients.

We urge the Commission not to 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 business will suffer irreparable harm. When competition is reduced, incentives for innovation are reduced, prices rise and service suffers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, /

Steven J. Wachtel, Owner