

Press Release

Microsoft May Pay 22.6 Million to Settle Anti-Trust Suit

Nebraska consumers, disadvantaged schools to gain vouchers

Lincoln, NE – July 5, 2005: Computer users and some of Nebraska's poorest schools stand to gain a share of a \$22.6 Million class action lawsuit designed to settle claims of Microsoft's anti-competitive practices from 1997 to 2002.

By simply filling out a claim form, a Nebraska resident, school, corporation, or non-profit organization, may receive between \$5 and \$12 for every piece of qualifying Microsoft software product purchased in the five year range. Qualifying products include Microsoft DOS, Windows 95, 98, 98SE, Millennium, NT, 2000, Windows 3.1, and Office products. Most notifications about this settlement were sent via email. Many were interpreted as unsolicited email, and automatically filtered as SPAM, or junk email.

"We had a number of phone calls and emails from our customers asking if the emails were legitimate," Thor Schrock, Owner of Schrock Innovations, Inc. said. "We contacted the Dodge County Court and then the plaintiffs' attorney and confirmed this to be a legitimate notification."

Robert Millis, of the Yost Law Firm in Fremont, NE, was the attorney who brought the action in court. He said that the potential settlement is a good thing for consumers as well as some of Nebraska's most disadvantaged students.

"I would encourage everyone who has a claim to fill out a claim form," Millis said. "If there is money remaining after all claims have been paid, then 1/2 of that money will be given to Nebraska's most disadvantaged schools."

In fact, many schools will have the ability to double-dip in this settlement, Mills said. Schools can file claims for the Microsoft software they purchased as claimants, and then also get ½ of the remaining money after all claims have been paid.

If approved by the courts, Microsoft would pay the settlement to all claimants in the form of vouchers to be with the largest numbers of students in the Federal Student Lunch Program would receive half of the unclaimed funds. The court is expected to accept or decline the proposed settlement by November 17, 2005.

Mills will appear on Schrock Innovation's local radio show, *Compute This*, in an exclusive interview about the class-action suit, and how individuals can file claim forms. The show will air in Omaha at 8:30 AM on Saturday, July 9, on 1490 AM KOMJ. Audio of this interview, as well as links to the proposed settlement and claim forms can be found at www.schrockinnovations.com.

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