

Jesse Jayne Rutherford

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September 2, 2009

Office of the Clerk, J. Michael McMahon
U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York
500 Pearl Street
New York, New York 10007

RE: Objection to Google Books Settlement

To the court:

I am an award-winning ghostwriter and freelance writer, and a member of the ASJA. I object to the Google Book Settlement. Here's why:

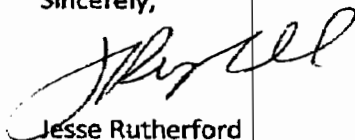
Google's search service is currently free to internet users. But Google has plans to monetize that. **In a few years, you won't be able to "google" something for free, you'll have to pay for it. Every time.**

Right now, people can access Google books for free. **I seriously doubt that Google Books will remain free** when other searches have fees attached to them. Google and other internet businesses follow a standard, winning strategy: first build the site, then increase traffic, then monetize. This is doubtless what will happen with Google Books.

When that happens, Google will control a large portion of the world's information. Everything on the web. Everything in printed books. I love Google's search service and use it every day in my work, and have nothing against Google in particular. I think, however, that **letting one company own that much of the world's information is very dangerous** for freedom of information, freedom of access to the written word, and when it comes down to it, freedom of speech.

This is the primary reason I object to the settlement.

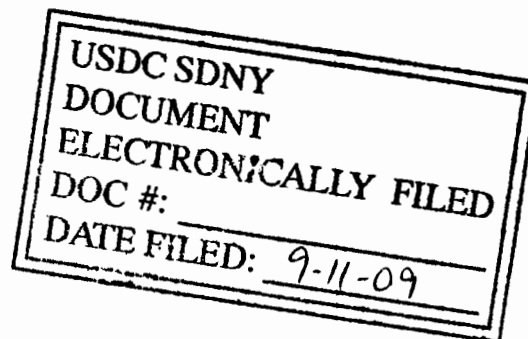
Sincerely,



Jesse Rutherford

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The Author's Guild et al v. Google, Inc

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