

**WEST VIRGINIA**  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**  
**KEN HECHLER**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION**

Form #3

DO NOT MARK IN THIS BOX

Aug. 10, 1990

**NOTICE OF AGENCY APPROVAL OF A PROPOSED RULE  
AND  
FILING WITH THE LEGISLATIVE RULE-MAKING REVIEW COMMITTEE**

AGENCY: ATTORNEY GENERAL TITLE NUMBER: 142

CITE AUTHORITY W. Va. Code § 47-18-20

AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING RULE: YES  NO

IF YES, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING AMENDED: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF RULE BEING AMENDED: \_\_\_\_\_

IF NO, SERIES NUMBER OF NEW RULE BEING PROPOSED: 16

TITLE OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: Proposed legislative rule pertaining to authorizing the Attorney General to require persons upon whom subpoenas are served to answer written questions under oath.

THE ABOVE PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE RULE HAVING GONE TO A PUBLIC HEARING OR A PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD IS HEREBY APPROVED BY THE PROMULGATING AGENCY FOR FILING WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE LEGISLATIVE RULE MAKING REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR THEIR REVIEW.

Reg. W. Taylor

TITLE 142  
PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE RULE  
ATTORNEY GENERAL  
SERIES 16

Title: Proposed legislative rule pertaining to authorizing the Attorney General to require persons upon whom subpoenas are served to answer written questions under oath.

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REPORT ON PUBLIC HEARING, PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD  
AND AMENDMENTS

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The Public Comment Period with respect to the above-referenced legislative rule expired at 5:00 p.m., August 6, 1990, and a Public Hearing on the proposed rule was held on that date, all pursuant to notice sent to the Office of the Secretary of State for publication in the State Register on July 6, 1990.

One comment was received in favor of the proposed rule and no one attended the Hearing.

A transcript of the Public Hearing will be forwarded immediately upon receipt from the court reporter.

The proposed rule was approved as amended pursuant to recommendations from the Attorney General and members of his staff. These recommendations for amendments were made for the purpose of clarifying the meaning of the originally proposed rule.

Report On Public Hearing etc.  
Proposed Legislative Rule, 142 C.S.R. 16  
August 10, 1990  
Page 2

For further information, please contact Robert William Schulenberg, III, Senior Assistant Attorney General, or Donna S. Quesenberry, Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division, 812 Quarrier Street, Fifth Floor, Charleston, West Virginia 25301.

TITLE 142  
PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE RULE  
ATTORNEY GENERAL  
SERIES 16

Title: Proposed legislative rule pertaining to authorizing the Attorney General to require persons upon whom subpoenas are served to answer written questions under oath.

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SUMMARY OF PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE RULE AND  
STATEMENT OF CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING THE RULE

The Antitrust Division of the Office of the Attorney General is promulgating a rule designed to require any person upon whom the Attorney General serves a subpoena pursuant to W. Va. Code § 47-18-7 (1978) to answer written questions in writing and under oath.

The rule is divided into two sections. The first section, entitled "General," addresses the scope, authority, filing date, effective date, construction and severability of the rule. The second section, entitled "Written Responses to Subpoenas," clarifies the language of W. Va. Code § 47-18-7 (1978) as it relates to the Attorney General's investigation of alleged violations of the West Virginia Antitrust Act.

This rule is necessary to specify the power of the Attorney General to require any person upon whom a subpoena is served pursuant to the Antitrust Act to answer written questions under oath and to clarify the language of the pertinent statute.

For more information, please contact Robert William Schulenberg III, Senior Assistant Attorney General, or Donna S. Quesenberry, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, Antitrust Division, 812 Quarrier Street, Fifth Floor, Charleston, West Virginia 25301.

TITLE 142

PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE RULE  
ATTORNEY GENERAL  
SERIES 16

Title: Proposed legislative rule pertaining to  
authorizing the Attorney General to require  
persons upon whom subpoenas are served to answer  
written questions under oath

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§ 142-16-1. General.

1.1 Scope - This rule shall apply to any  
investigation commenced pursuant to the provisions of  
W. Va. Code §§ 47-18-6, 7 (1978).

1.2 Authority - W. Va. Code § 47-18-20 (1978).

1.3 Filing Date -

1.4 Effective Date -

1.5 Purpose - The purpose of this rule is to  
authorize the Attorney General to require persons upon whom  
subpoenas may be served to provide written answers under  
oath to written questions.

1.6 Construction - This rule shall be liberally  
construed to effectuate the beneficial purposes of the West  
Virginia Antitrust Act.

1.7 Severability - If, for any reason, any  
section, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this rule  
or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is  
held unconstitutional or invalid, such unconstitutionality  
shall not affect other sections, sentences, phrases, or  
provisions or their application to any other person or  
circumstance, and to this end, each and every section,  
sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this rule is  
hereby declared severable.

§ 142-16-2 Written Responses to Subpoenas.

The Attorney General may require any person upon  
whom a subpoena is served pursuant to W. Va. Code § 47-18-7  
(1978) to answer written questions in writing and under  
oath.

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BEFORE THE WEST VIRGINIA ANTITRUST DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF  
HEARING ON PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE RULE  
PERTAINING TO THE ENFORCEMENT AND  
ADMINISTRATION OF THE WEST VIRGINIA  
ANTITRUST ACT, W. VA. CODE 47-18-1  
THROUGH -23, AND AS IT MAY FROM TIME  
TO TIME BE AMENDED

L & S Building  
812 Quarrier Street  
Sixth Floor  
Charleston, West Virginia  
August 6, 1990

The above-entitled matter came on for hearing at  
8:55 a.m. before:

DONNA QUESENBERRY, Hearing Officer

APPEARANCES: No appearances

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I N D E X

<u>Rule Making Exhibits</u>	<u>Marked</u>	<u>Received</u>
No. 1, Sign In Sheet	4	4
No. 2, Letter dated July 27, 1990	4	4

P R O C E E D I N G S

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HEARING OFFICER QUESENBERY: On the record.  
My name is Donna Quesenberry, Assistant Attorney General,  
assigned to the Antitrust Division of the Attorney General's  
Office.

Today is August 6, 1990 and the time by my  
watch is 1:25 p.m.

We are here today for a public hearing on the  
Attorney General's Proposed Legislative Rule pertaining to  
investigative powers of the Attorney General pursuant to the  
West Virginia Antitrust Act.

The public hearing in this matter was  
scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m. today; however, there have  
been no persons appearing in this matter.

I would like to have attached to the comment  
record the sign-in sheets, which for the purpose of this  
rule, are unexecuted as well as a copy of the letter dated  
July 27, 1990 to Attorney General Tompkins containing  
favorable comments for this proposed legislative rule. The  
comments are from former Deputy Attorney General of the  
Antitrust Division, Daniel N. Huck. The original has been  
signed by Mr. Huck through Constance R. Tsokanis, Assistant  
Attorney General.

(WHEREUPON, the sign-in

1 sheet was marked for identification as Rule  
2 Making Exhibit No. 1 and was received in  
3 evidence.)

4 (WHEREUPON, the letter  
5 dated July 27, 1990 was marked for purposes  
6 of identification as Rule Making Exhibit  
7 No. 2 and was received in evidence.)

8 In addition to these favorable comments from  
9 the Attorney General's staff, I would like to point out that  
10 the notice for the public hearing and comment period was  
11 filed in a timely manner with the Office of the Secretary of  
12 State on or about the 6th day of July, 1990.

13 In addition to the copy of the proposed  
14 legislative rule, Title 142, Series 16 and the Notice of  
15 Public Hearing, a fiscal note for the proposed legislative  
16 rule was also filed. We have not received any additional  
17 written comments to the rule other than those that have been  
18 placed by the Division's staff.

19 In addition to those comments which have been  
20 placed on the record, I would like to set forth some  
21 additional comments and amendments to the proposed rule at  
22 the request of Robert William Schulenberg, III, Senior  
23 Assistant Attorney General and Director of the Antitrust  
24 Division. I would like to call your attention to Section 2  
25 pertaining to interrogatories and the Attorney General's

1 investigative subpoena pursuant to W. Va. Code Section 47-  
2 18-7. That section as it now reads will be stricken and in  
3 its place will be the following section or paragraph:

4           The Attorney General may require any  
5           person upon whom a subpoena is served to  
6           answer written questions under oath.

7           The Attorney General's staff feels that this  
8 change will make the meaning of that section clearer and  
9 easier to understand.

10           I would also like to note for the record that  
11 I am not the original hearing officer assigned to this rule  
12 making proceeding. The hearing was originally to be  
13 conducted by Constance R. Tsokanis, Assistant Attorney  
14 General. However, because of unforeseen circumstances I was  
15 called in as a substitute hearing officer for the purpose  
16 of this proceeding. To that extent I will now be  
17 responsible and I assume responsibility for finally  
18 promulgating this rule and delivering the appropriate number  
19 of copies of the rule comments and other matters to the  
20 legislative rule making committee and the Office of the  
21 Secretary of State.

22           Right now, those are all the comments I will  
23 make. We will hold the oral comment period open until  
24 approximately 2:00 p.m. whereupon, if no one attends, the  
25 oral portion of the rule-making record will be closed.

N. JOAN THAXTON COURT REPORTERS, INC.  
(304/988-3970)

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The written portion of the comment period will be closed at about 5:00 p.m. today to allow persons who have mailed comments or otherwise communicated in writing to successfully effectuate delivery of their comments. We will, therefore, hold this oral comment period open for approximately another 30 minutes.

So, let's take a short recess.

(Whereupon, a short recess was taken.)

HEARING OFFICER QUESENBERY: We are back on the record. I would note that there is still no one in attendance at this public hearing. Therefore, it being 2:00 p.m., I hereby declare the oral comment period for this proposed rule closed and declare the written comment period for the proposed rule to be closed as of 5:00 p.m. today, August 6, 1990.

Thank you.

(WHEREUPON, at 2:00 p.m. the hearing was adjourned.)


1  
2 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE  
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5 HEARING DATE: Monday, August 6, 1990

6 LOCATION: Charleston, West Virginia  
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8 I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence  
9 herein are contained fully and accurately on the tapes and  
10 notes reported by me at the hearing in the above entitled  
11 matter before DONNA QUESENBERRY, Assistant Attorney General,  
12 Hearing Officer, and that this is a true and correct  
13 transcript of the case.  
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15 Date: August 10, 1990  
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19 Official Recorder  
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SIGN IN SHEET  
TITLE 142 - SERIES 16  
INVESTIGATIVE POWERS

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STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
CHARLESTON 25305

ROGER W. TOMPKINS  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

(304) 348-2021

CONSUMER HOTLINE  
(800) 368-8808

July 31, 1990

The Honorable Roger W. Tompkins  
Attorney General of the  
State of West Virginia  
Room E-26, State Capitol  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Re: Comments on the Proposed Legislative Rules Pertaining to the Enforcement and Administration of the West Virginia Antitrust Act, W. Va. Code §§ 47-18-1 through -23, and as it may from time to time be amended.

Dear Attorney General:

Please accept these comments for filing in support of the proposed legislative rules, which this division has submitted to the Secretary of State. These comments should not be construed as limitations to the proposed rules.

West Virginia Code § 47-18-20 authorizes the Attorney General to engage in rulemaking to aid in the enforcement or administration of the West Virginia Antitrust Act. Any rule proposed by Attorney General must be promulgated in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act (APA). See W. Va. Code § 29A-3-1 (1986). Rules promulgated through the required rulemaking procedure and done in accordance with the APA have the force of law. See W. Va. Code § 29A-1-2(d)(1) (1986).

In the following comments, each rule will be treated separately. Each series and rule is and should be considered completely severable for the purposes of its adoption and construction.

142 Proposed Legislative Rule 14 §§ 1-3

Section 1 includes the general provisions involving scope, authority, filing date, purpose and construction. It is prefatory in nature, and does not require further comment. This is true of each proposed rule to follow.

Sections 2 and 3 address the question of how the statute of limitations will run with regard to continuing antitrust violations. The rule states that in the instance of a continuing antitrust violation, a cause of action shall be available for four years from the last date upon which the continuing violation took place. The rule also states that an antitrust violation which continues for a period of more than four years shall be deemed a present violation for the purpose of determining the date of accrual of a cause of action.

Actions brought under the Clayton Act must be brought within four years. Clayton Act, Section 4B, 15 U.S.C. § 15b (Law Co-op. 1985). Section 11 of the West Virginia Antitrust Act is analogous in that it addresses the limitation of actions.<sup>1</sup> The West Virginia Antitrust Act is demonstrably more flexible than its federal counterpart with respect to limitations of actions, however, in that it permits causes of action based upon a conspiracy to be brought within four years of the discovery of such conspiracy. It also carves out a clear exception to the four-year rule in the instance of a continuing violation.

The purpose of the proposed rule is to clarify the meaning of the sentence which declares "[f]or the purposes of this section, a cause of action for a continuing violation is deemed to arise at any time during the period of such violation." (Emphasis added.) The proposed rule is a codification of the judicial interpretation of the applicable accrual time for causes of action based on continuing violations in analogous cases outside the area of

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<sup>1</sup> The state limitation of action statute, W. Va. Code § 47-18-11 (1986), reads:

Any action brought to enforce the provisions of this article shall be barred unless commenced within four years after the cause of action arose, or if the cause of action is based upon a conspiracy in violation of this article, within four years after the plaintiff discovered, or by the exercise of reasonable diligence should have discovered the facts relied upon for proof of the conspiracy. For the purpose of this section, a cause of action for a continuing violation is deemed to arise at any time during the period of such violation.

(Emphasis added.)

antitrust.<sup>2</sup> For example, under the West Virginia Human Rights Act, W. Va. Code § 5-11-1(19) (1987 & Supp. 1989), the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals has declared that, in an employment discrimination case dealing with compensation disparity, a continuing violation exists so that a violation of the Human Rights Act is deemed present for as long as the disparity existed and, therefore, a complaint based upon allegedly unlawful compensation disparity over a period of time is not barred even if filed within the limitation period after the compensation disparity last occurred. West Virginia Institute of Technology v. West Virginia Human Rights Commission, \_\_\_ W. Va. \_\_\_, 383 S.E.2d 490 (1988); see also West Virginia Human Rights Commission v. United Transportation Union, Local 655, \_\_\_ W. Va. \_\_\_, 280 S.E.2d 653 (1981).

The Legislature authorized a distinct treatment with respect to limitation of actions for continuing violations under the West Virginia Antitrust Act. This proposed rule illuminates that distinction in the context of ruling precedent in this State.

142 Proposed Legislative Rule 14 § 4

This rule seeks to clarify the provisions of W. Va. Code §§ 47-18-8 and -18-9 as they relate to the State's recovery of costs in successful antitrust enforcement actions. A state is not generally permitted to recover attorneys' fees unless that is specifically allowed by statute. The West Virginia Antitrust Act makes such a specific allowance. In pertinent part, W. Va. Code § 47-18-8, which allows the Attorney General to seek injunctive relief necessary to restore and preserve competition, declares that "[i]f a permanent injunction is issued at such proceedings, reasonable costs of the action may be awarded the State, including but not limited to expenses of discovery and document reproduction."

The following section, W. Va. Code § 47-18-9 of the Antitrust Act, allows any person who is damaged in his business or property by reason of a violation to recover "reasonable attorneys' fees, filing fees and reasonable costs of the action. Reasonable costs

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<sup>2</sup> As you know, there has been little judicial interpretation of the West Virginia Antitrust Act, so we must look to "comparable" federal law for guidance as to construction. See W. Va. Code § 47-18-16 (1986). Here, there is no "comparable" federal law. In fact, this is an area where the state statute departs from the federal law. In such instances, we must ascertain legislative intent by examining precedent in other areas of law on analogous points.

of the action may include, but shall not be limited to the expenses of discovery and document reproduction." The next paragraph of this provision makes the State a person for the purposes of that section. Therefore, both sections specifically permit the State cost recovery in successful actions. Both sections are broad provisions, which utilize a form of the phrase "includes but is not limited to." It is a well-settled point in West Virginia and in the federal system that phrases such as "includes, but is not limited to" are construed as a phrases of enlargement which do not limit statutory application to the illustrations given in the statute. Human Rights Commission v. Pauley, 212 S.E.2d 77 at 80, citing Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission v. AltoReste Park Cemetery Assoc., 453 Pa. 124, 306 A.2d 881 (1973). See also FPC v. Corporation Commission of the State of Oklahoma 362 F. Supp. 522 (D.C. Okla. 1973). The proposed rule illustrates the types of costs that the Legislature viewed as recoverable when the State expends precious resources to successfully enjoin violative behavior.

142 Proposed Legislative Rule 15 § 2

This proposed rule gives the citations for the body of federal antitrust law. This is necessary in the enforcement and administration of the state laws in that it specifies the federal law relevant to state antitrust enforcement and administration.

142 Proposed Legislative Rule 15 § 3

This proposed rule clarifies the meaning of the term "comparable," as used in W. Va. Code § 47-18-16. It illustrates the principle recently announced by the Supreme Court in California v. ARC America, \_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_, 109 S. Ct. 1661, 104 L. Ed. 2d 86 (1989) that state antitrust provisions which are contrary to or differ from federal antitrust provisions are not preempted by federal law. In that case, Justice White, writing for the majority, declared, "Congress intended the federal antitrust laws to supplement, not displace, state antitrust remedies." Citing 21 Cong. Rec. 2457 (1890) (Remarks of Sen. Sherman); See also Cantor v. Detroit Edison Co., 428 U.S. 579, 96 S. Ct. 3110, 49 L. Ed. 2d 1141 (1976).

142 Proposed Legislative Rule 15 §§ 4.1 and 4.2

Sections 4.1 and 4.2 specify two types of anticompetitive behavior which have been deemed unlawful in the federal system and are violative of the broad prohibitions of the West Virginia Antitrust Act. The purpose of these proposed rules is to clarify

Page 5  
Roger W. Tompkins, Attorney General  
July 31, 1990

the Attorney General's position on this point based on a careful reading of the applicable law.

Section 4.1 refers to "tie-in" agreements. Such agreements condition the sale of one product or service upon the purchase of another product or service. The ability to condition the sale of one product upon the purchase of another necessarily implies a market power in the desired product and an attempt to leverage such power in the less desired product's market. Such agreements have been held unlawful under Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1; Section 3 of the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. § 14 (1982); and Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45 (a)(1) (1982).

In Fortner Enterprises, Inc. v. United States Steel Corp., 394 U.S. 495 (1969), United States Steel tied favorable credit terms for contractors to the purchase of prefab housing. The Court declared that such arrangements, if proven, "generally serve no legitimate business purpose that cannot be achieved in some less restrictive way." Id. at 503. In International Salt Co. v. United States, 332 U.S. 392 (1947), the lease of an innovative salt processor was conditioned upon the purchase of a certain brand of raw salt. Of that arrangement, the Supreme Court held, "it is unreasonable per se to foreclose competitors from any substantial market." Id. at 396.

Since the time of these cases, tying has consistently been regarded as an undesirable and illegal when it unreasonably restricts free trade. See Capra, Inc. v. Ward Foods, Inc., 536 F.2d 39 (5th Cir. 1976); Moore v. Jas. H. Matthews & Co., 550 F.2d 1207 (9th Cir. 1977); Siegel v. Chicken Delight, Inc., 448 F.2d 41 (9th Cir. 1971), cert. den., 405 U.S. 955 (1972). Even recently, as the Supreme Court has been less willing to find tying arrangements unlawful per se, the Fourth Circuit continues to recognize the competitive damage such arrangements can do. In Matrix Warehouse, Inc. v. Daimler-Benz Aktiengesellschaft, 828 F.2d 1033 (4th Cir. 1987), the court held that "quality control" was not a justification for tying the sale of repair parts to the sale of automobiles when the defendant had already issued specifications for such parts.

Rule 4.2 specifies reciprocity as a per se violation of the West Virginia Antitrust Act. Reciprocity typically occurs when one party buys goods from another only upon the condition that the second party will buy goods from the first. Such agreements have been held per se unlawful under Section 7 of the Clayton Act by the Supreme Court. FTC v. Consolidated Food Corp. 380 U.S. 592 (1965). The Fifth Circuit shed light upon the reason why reciprocal arrangements and tying arrangements were similarly pernicious to

Page 6  
Roger W. Tompkins, Attorney General  
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competition in Spartan Grain & Mill Co. v. Ayers 581 F.2d 419, 425 (5th Cir. 1978), cert. den., 444 U.S. 831 (1979):

The two labels [tying and reciprocity] refer to similar phenomena. In each case, one side of a transaction has special power in the market place. It uses this power to force those with whom it deals to make concessions in another market. In tying arrangements, a seller with economic power forces the purchaser to purchase something else to obtain the desired item. In reciprocal dealings, a buyer with economic power forces a seller to buy something from it to sell its goods. In both cases the key is the extension of economic power from one market into another market.

Either type of arrangement is clearly undesirable from an antitrust enforcement perspective. The Legislature signalled its awareness of this by giving the Attorney General broad enforcement powers and by prohibiting in W. Va. Code § 47-18-3(a) "every" contract in restraint of trade. Given this prohibition, these proposed rules are necessarily illustrative of the types of activities contemplated by the Act.

142 Proposed Legislative Rule 16 § 2

In the instance of an antitrust inquiry based upon the Attorney General's probable cause to believe that wrongdoing has occurred, W. Va. Code § 47-18-7(a) permits the Attorney General to "require production of . . . any matter which is relevant to the investigation." The West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals has declared that the word "any" when used in a statute means any. In Thomas v. Firestone Tire and Rubber Co., \_\_\_ W. Va. \_\_\_, 266 S.E.2d 905 (1980), the Court stated:

We are impressed that the word 'any' represents a fundamental and irreducible concept. It is a statue wrought from the letters A, N and Y; a monument to an idea; an artistic rendering designed to signify a meaningful unit of the English language. The Court is led to the unavoidable conclusion that the word 'any' when used in a statute should be construed to mean, in a word, any . . . .

Id. at 909. Given this clear judicial mandate concerning the construction of the statutory language, the Attorney General would argue that investigative interrogatories are both more desirable

in that they minimize expenditure of resources on both sides<sup>3</sup> and perfectly within the contemplation of the statute. The purpose of this rule, then, is to clarify the expressed legislative intent so that an occasionally perceived loop-hole may be resolved in favor of this practical and cost-effective means of investigation.

142 Proposed Legislative Rule 17 § 2

Section 2 of Proposed Legislative Rule 17 addresses itself to clarifying the prohibition articulated in W. Va. Code 47-18-7(d), in which the Attorney General is prevented from making public the name or identity of any person whose acts or conduct he has investigated, but against whom no enforcement proceeding has been brought under the article. Section 2 explicitly states what has always been implicitly true: A court action for mandamus may be brought against the Attorney General in order to ascertain such information. This rule acknowledges that a court of competent jurisdiction may balance, on a case by case basis, a targeted party's right to privacy when no actionable violation has been found with the public right to access to and supervision of the governing process.

142 Proposed Legislative Rule 18 § 2

This proposed rule explicates state action immunity as the Legislature has articulated it in W. Va. Code § 47-18-5(b). The Legislature recognized the need for state action immunity under the West Virginia Antitrust Act. State action immunity has been discussed at length in the federal system. In order for a course of conduct to qualify for state action immunity, it must be affirmatively be shown that: (1) The state expressed a clearly articulated and affirmative policy restricting competition; and (2) the state actively supervised that policy restricting competition. California Retail Liquor Dealers Association v. Midcal Aluminum, Inc., 445 U.S. 97 (1980). Satisfaction of both the existence of the public policy and active supervision elements must occur. If there is a failure in proof of either element, the test fails and the conduct is not immunized. This proposed rule merely adopts this ruling standard as articulated in Midcal in order to clarify the Legislature's intent in creating the exemption.

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<sup>3</sup> When taken in lieu of depositions, interrogatories are less disruptive for the target of an investigation, since they would allow the target of an investigation or its employees to answer questions under oath without forcing them to come to Charleston to do so.

Page 8  
Roger W. Tompkins, Attorney General  
July 31, 1990

142 Proposed Rule 19 §§ 2 and 3

These two sections simply express the means which the Attorney General would employ to compel the compliance of any person contemplated by W. Va. Code § 47-18-21 and the priority with which such action or any action to compel would be heard by the court. They have been proposed in order to articulate available redress the Attorney General has access to in the instance that a contemplated person should fail to cooperate.

Each of these rules is essential to the proper administration and enforcement of the West Virginia Antitrust Act. Therefore, I submit these comments in favor of the proposed legislative rules. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Daniel N. Huck* b/cft

DANIEL N. HUCK  
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL  
ANTITRUST DIVISION



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
CHARLESTON 25305

ROGER W. TOMPKINS  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

(304) 348-2021

CONSUMER HOTLINE  
(800) 368-8808

August 10, 1990

The Honorable Ken Hechler  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol  
Suite 157-K  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

RE: Filing of agency approved legislative rule  
pertaining to authorizing the Attorney General  
to require persons upon whom subpoenas are served  
to answer written questions under oath;  
Title 142, Series 16.

Dear Mr. Hechler:

By this letter I am informing you that I have filed the above proposed legislative rule with the Legislative Rule-Making Review Committee as an agency approved rule. I am also filing at this time:

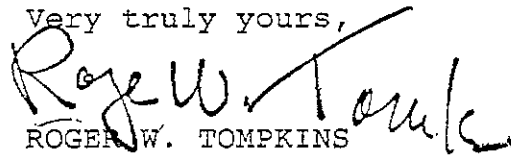
- (1) a copy of the agency approved rule because of a change in the language from the previously filed rule;
- (2) a copy of the notice of agency approval (and the submission) to the Legislative Rule-Making Review Committee;
- (3) a report on public hearing, public comment period and amendments; and
- (4) a summary of proposed legislative rule and statement of circumstances requiring the rule.

A copy of all items received at the public hearing is forthcoming.

Secretary of State  
August 10, 1990  
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Please feel free to contact Rob Schulenberg or Donna Quesenberry of my staff at 348-0246 if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

  
ROGER W. TOMPKINS  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

RWS/rm  
Enclosures