

## **ANTITRUST POLICY**

From the inception of the association, one of the major tenets of Associated Builders and Contractors has been opposition to monopolies. A natural corollary of that policy view is favor for antitrust laws.

Since violations of antitrust laws have arisen recently, the association deems it advisable to reiterate our long-standing position on the subject.

Federal laws and many state laws prohibit contracts, combinations or conspiracies in restraint of trade and unfair competition.

We are conscious of the existence and potential effect of these laws upon our organization at the national, state and local levels. We are likewise cognizant of the importance of these laws in our member-to-member relationships, as well as in dealing with non-member firms.

As an association, we will not, by any means, enter into any arrangements or understandings that restrain trade or competition, by any collusive acts that can be interpreted as seeking such ends.

We strongly urge all members to be aware of the hazards of any such activities that might violate such laws.

We specifically call attention of our association officers, staff and members to such unlawful practices as the following:

1. Boycotting of firms or products through management agreements.
2. "Courtesy" bidding -- agreeing to price bid to the advantage of any individual firm.
3. Agreements to fix wages or prices.
4. Promotion of bid depositories with penalties for violations.
5. Agreement upon so-called bid preparation fees to be shared among competitive bidders.
6. Agreements to use exclusively any materials, supplies or services.
7. Limitation of markets -- to type, geography, size or similar carve-outs.
8. Any agreements to prevent access to markets or supplies.

As an association, we condemn such actions and urge our members to be aware that such violations not only contravene the basic principles of the Merit Shop espoused by our Association, but entail upon conviction of violating heavy criminal and civil penalties.