



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
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James F. O'Neil, Attorney General

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The Antitrust Unit of the Rhode Island Attorney General's Department has received complaints regarding certain business practices of Rhode Island marinas. While I do not wish to inhibit legitimate practices, it has been determined that some marinas are violating federal and state antitrust laws.

This letter is being sent to inform you of the antitrust law obligations marinas face and to inform you of my position on these matters.

Absent extraordinary circumstances, it is illegal to:

1. Require a person renting either seasonal slip or mooring space to store a boat in either inside or outside storage at the marina for the upcoming winter season.
2. Require a person storing a boat in winter storage to rent either seasonal slip or mooring space at the marina for the upcoming summer season.
3. Require a person renting either seasonal slip or mooring space to pay a significant premium for his summer slip rental if he does not store his boat at your yard for the winter.
4. Require a person storing a boat in outside winter storage to have specific work done by the marina which is not necessary to the decommissioning or launching of the boat.
5. Require a person renting either slip, mooring or outside storage space to have a specific dollar amount of work performed on the boat by the marina.