

## DEPARTMENT of JUSTICE

## United States Attorney Dena J. King

United States Attorney's Office Western District of North Carolina

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Friday, January 28, 2022 WDNC.gov | @USAO\_WDNC Contact: Lia Bantavani Public Affairs Officer Lia.Bantavani@usdoj.gov

## <u>AMAZON EMPLOYEE PLEADS GUILTY TO MAIL FRAUD FOR STEALING MORE THAN \$273,000 IN MERCHANDISE</u>

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Douglas Wright, Jr., 27, of Charlotte, appeared before U.S. Magistrate Judge David C. Keesler today and pleaded guilty to mail fraud, for stealing merchandise from Amazon worth over \$273,000, announced Dena J. King, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina.

Joining U.S. Attorney King in making today's announcement are Robert R. Wells, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI in Charlotte, and Tommy D. Coke, Inspector in Charge of the Atlanta Division of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, which oversees Charlotte.

According to plea documents and today's hearing, from June 2020 to September 2021, Wright executed a scheme to defraud Amazon by stealing merchandise worth over \$273,000 from the company's warehouse. Over the course of the scheme, Wright was employed as an Operation's Manager at Amazon's warehouse in Charlotte. Court records show that Wright misused his access to the company's computers to target certain merchandise, particularly computer parts such as internal hard drives, processors, and graphic processing units, and shipped those items from the warehouse to his home address. As Wright admitted in court today, he then sold the stolen merchandise for profit to a computer wholesale company in California.

Wright pleaded guilty to mail fraud, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. A sentencing date has not been set.

The FBI and USPIS investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Caryn Finley, of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Charlotte is prosecuting the case.

###