

Department of Justice

Acting United States Attorney Sally Quillian Yates Northern District of Georgia

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UPS STORE MANAGER PLEADS GUILTY TO SELLING MARIJUANA STOLEN FROM THE MAIL

Defendant Admits to Lying to Federal Agents

ATLANTA, GA - ANNA K. WRIGHT, 33, of Atlanta, Georgia, pleaded guilty today in federal district court to one count each of making a false statement to a federal agent and distributing marijuana.

Acting United States Attorney Sally Quillian Yates said of the case, "This defendant was prosecuted because although she feigned cooperation with federal investigators, in reality, she chose to be a liar, a thief, and a drug dealer. Today she admitted her wrongdoing. She will now face the consequences."

"The U.S. Postal Inspection Service aggressively investigates cases involving the misuse of the U.S. mail system by criminals who traffic illegal contraband such as narcotics. This defendant attempted to get in the way of our mission to protect the nations' mail system. During this investigation, she chose the wrong side," said Martin D. Phanco, Postal Inspector in Charge Atlanta Division.

According to Acting United States Attorney Yates, the charges and other information presented in court: WRIGHT was a store manager for a UPS store in Atlanta. She had agreed to contact the United States Postal Inspectors if a certain mail box in her store received any packages — as those packages may contain contraband. However, rather than calling the Postal Inspectors when the mail box received a package, WRIGHT stole the parcel (which contained several pounds of marijuana) and sold most of the drugs for profit. During the investigation of the stolen marijuana parcel, WRIGHT provided federal agents with multiple false statements.

WRIGHT was indicted on the charges in October 2009. She pleaded guilty today to one count each of making a false statement to a federal agent and distributing marijuana. WRIGHT could receive a maximum sentence of 5 years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000 on each count. In determining the actual sentence, the Court will consider the United States Sentencing Guidelines, which are not binding but provide appropriate

sentencing ranges for most offenders.

Sentencing is scheduled for April 13, 2010, at 10:30 a.m., before United States District Judge Timothy C. Batten, Sr.

This case is being investigated by Postal Inspectors from the United States Postal Inspection Service.

Assistant United States Attorney Jeffrey W. Davis is prosecuting the case.

For further information please contact Sally Q. Yates, Acting United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.