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Assistant U.S. Attorney HOWARD WIENER 856-968-4926 moor0323.rel FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 23, 2007

Former Inventory Control Associate Sentenced to 6 Months in Prison and 6 months of Home Confinement

(More)

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CAMDEN – A former inventory control associate at OfficeMax's Delran Delivery Center was sentenced today to six months in federal prison to be followed by six months of home confinement for his role in a scheme to cause electronic consumer goods and other merchandise to be fraudulently shipped to addresses he controlled, causing a loss of approximately \$180,000, U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced.

U.S. District Judge Robert B. Kugler also ordered Gary Moore, 32, of Delran, to pay \$180,493 in restitution and to serve three years of supervised release, which includes six months of home confinement, upon the completion of his prison sentence. Judge Kugler continued the defendant's \$10,000 personal recognizance bond pending his surrender to the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Moore was arrested on Dec. 28, 2005, at his home on a one-count Indictment that charges mail fraud. On Sept. 27, 2006, Moore pleaded guilty to the mail fraud charge before Judge Kugler. The Indictment describes a scheme in which the defendant created phony orders that caused a supplier of OfficeMax to ship merchandise directly to addresses he and another unindicted co-conspirator controlled.

At his plea hearing, Moore admitted his involvement in the scheme, which was carried out between June 2000 and March 2001.

Moore stated that his job duties included the processing of OfficeMax customers' telephone orders. Moore arranged for the ordered merchandise to be shipped from the Delran Delivery Center. If that merchandise was not in stock, he ordered it from an OfficeMax supplier. That supplier then would ship the merchandise directly to the customers, commonly known as a drop shipment.

Moore admitted he used a computer linked to one of the company's wholesale suppliers, S.P.R. Company (SPR), with warehouses in Moorestown, as well as elsewhere in the northeastern United States, to process and fill the phony customer orders. SPR then billed OfficeMax for the merchandise that SPR shipped as a result of those phony orders, Moore admitted. Most of the merchandise was electronic consumer goods, such as digital cameras and camcorders.

Moore admitted that as part of his scheme, other individuals were paid a nominal fee to accept delivery of the fraudulently ordered merchandise. In addition, another OfficeMax employee, identified only as J.G. in the Indictment, paid Moore for the merchandise that Moore caused to be shipped to addresses J.G. provided and controlled. All this merchandise then was sold to other people.

Moore admitted that the wholesale value of the merchandise that he caused to be shipped to addresses that he or J.G. controlled was approximately \$175,000.

In determining the actual sentence, Judge Kugler consulted the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provide appropriate sentencing ranges that take into account the severity and characteristics of the offense, the defendant's criminal history, if any, and other factors. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

Parole has been abolished in the federal system. Defendants who are given custodial terms must serve nearly all that time.

Christie credited Special Agents of the U.S. Secret Service Philadelphia Field Office, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Robert Slama, with the investigation leading to the Indictment.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Howard Wiener of the Criminal Division in Camden.

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Defense Attorney: Lisa Evans Lewis, Esq. Asst. Federal Public Defender