

## LAW ENFORCEMENT GROUP URGES AMAZON TO JOIN INDUSTRY EFFORTS TO STOP STOLEN GOODS SOLD ONLINE

*Amazon Falsely Boasts Of Collaboration With Law Enforcement As It Opposes Legislation That Would Stop Flow of Illicit Merchandise*



**CORAL SPRINGS, FL May 26, 2021** – The Coalition of Law Enforcement and Retail (CLEAR), a non-profit, non-partisan national association comprised of law enforcement and retail loss prevention professionals, today issued the following statement in response to Amazon’s [deceptive claims](#) about the INFORM Consumers Act.

“Retailers and law enforcement officials work hand in hand to combat the organized criminal rings that target local businesses. To date, that same level of commitment has not been made by Amazon despite the flood of stolen goods that are fenced by criminal networks on their marketplace,” said **Ben Dugan, Coalition of Law Enforcement and Retail President**. “Despite the obvious need for greater transparency on e-commerce platforms to identify fraudulent sellers and criminal elements, Amazon has chosen to ignore the problem, and fight legislative efforts that make it harder for criminal networks to operate in the shadows of the Internet.”

In a [blog post](#) published on Amazon’s website last month, the company made several false assertions about the INFORM Consumers Act, namely its impact on third-party sellers. Throughout the post, Amazon offered bolstering resources for law enforcement officials as a potential alternative to the marketplace transparency. However, in order for law enforcement to track criminal activity lurking online, we need to remove the anonymity that allows criminal networks to hide behind fake businesses information and changing screennames. Amazon’s record of cooperating with law enforcement is also dubious at best, as was illustrated in a recent [\\$50 million organized crime operation](#) last year.

“Amazon is right when they say law enforcement should be given additional resources to stem the flow of fraudulent merchandise. But resources without transparency simply puts more pressure on law enforcement, without providing them with basic tools to better track criminal elements. It’s why law enforcement supports the INFORM Consumers Act, and why we urge Amazon to join us if they truly care about stopping illicit goods sold on their platform,” added Dugan.

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The [Coalition of Law Enforcement and Retail \(CLEAR\)](#) is a non-profit, non-partisan national association founded in November 2008 by a group of Law Enforcement and Retail Loss Prevention professionals that saw the need for the formation of a partnership. The Coalition provides a forum for public and private sector members, with experience in a wide variety of public safety initiatives, to aid and support the establishment of collaborative efforts that are focused on improving the safety of our communities and advancing the profession of its membership.

