

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
SEATTLE DIVISION**

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,

No. 2:20-cv-01434

Plaintiff,

v.

**COMPLAINT**

LAKSHA BOHRA, VIKY BOHRA, and  
GOTHAM BOHRA,

Defendants.

Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) alleges:

**SUMMARY OF THE ACTION**

1. This case involves a multi-year insider-trading scheme conducted by Laksha Bohra (“Bohra”), a finance manager employed at Amazon.com, Inc. (“Amazon” or the “Company”), her husband, Viky Bohra, and her father-in-law, Gotham Bohra. Bohra misused highly confidential Amazon financial information for her and her family’s personal gain. Bohra provided her husband with sensitive, material, and nonpublic information concerning Amazon’s financial performance that she obtained through her employment. Bohra or her husband also provided this same information to Bohra’s father-in-law. Ahead of each Amazon earnings

1 announcement between January 2016 and July 2018, Bohra’s husband, and in some instances  
2 Bohra’s father-in-law, traded Amazon stock and options, at least in part, on the basis of the  
3 material nonpublic information that Bohra provided. The family together made, in total, a profit  
4 of approximately \$1.4 million from these illegal insider Amazon trades.

5 2. Bohra’s husband and Bohra’s father-in-law traded in 11 separate brokerage  
6 accounts with the same brokerage firm based, at least in part, on inside information provided by  
7 Bohra. These accounts were owned by Bohra, Bohra’s husband, Bohra’s father-in-law, Bohra’s  
8 mother-in-law, and Bohra’s sister-in-law.

9 3. Through their actions, Defendants Laksha Bohra, Viky Bohra, and Gotham Bohra  
10 violated Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”) [15 U.S.C. §  
11 78j (b)] and Rule 10b-5 thereunder [17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5] and, unless restrained and enjoined,  
12 will continue to violate the federal securities laws.

### 13 JURISDICTION AND VENUE

14 4. The SEC brings this action pursuant to Sections 21(d), 21(e), and 21A of the  
15 Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78u(d), 78u(e), and 78u-1].

16 5. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Sections 21(d), 21(e),  
17 21A, and 27 of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. 78u(d), 78u(e), 78u-1, and §78aa].

18 6. Laksha Bohra, Viky Bohra, and Gotham Bohra (collectively the “Bohra  
19 Defendants”), directly or indirectly, made use of the means or instruments or instrumentalities of  
20 transportation or communication in interstate commerce, or of the mails, or the facilities of a  
21 national securities exchange in connection with the transactions, acts, practices, and courses of  
22 business alleged herein.

23 7. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to Section 27 of the Exchange Act [15  
24 U.S.C. § 78aa]. Certain of the acts, practices, courses of business, and transactions constituting  
25 the violations alleged herein occurred within the Western District of Washington. Pursuant to  
26 LCR 3(e)(1), assignment to the Seattle Division is appropriate because a substantial part of the  
27 relevant conduct occurred in King County.  
28

**DEFENDANTS**

1  
2 8. **Laksha Bohra** (“Bohra”) is 36 years old and resides in Bothell, Washington.  
3 Bohra started as a Transfer Pricing Manager in Amazon’s Tax Department in December 2012,  
4 and received a promotion to Senior Manager in May 2018. As a member of the Tax Department,  
5 which is part of Amazon’s Finance organization, Bohra had access to Amazon’s financial  
6 reporting databases and shared network files, and her responsibilities included assisting  
7 Amazon’s Accounting Department in calculating and reviewing transfer pricing for  
8 intercompany transactions ahead of earnings announcements and throughout the year. Amazon  
9 suspended Bohra’s employment on or about October 25, 2018, and Bohra resigned shortly  
10 thereafter.

11 9. **Viky Bohra aka Vik Bohra** (the “Husband”) is 36 years old and resides in  
12 Bothell, Washington with his wife, Defendant Laksha Bohra. Since 2015, Viky Bohra has been  
13 employed as a Program Manager at a Fortune 500 public technology company, and prior to that  
14 he worked as an engineer at two large public companies.

15 10. **Gotham Bohra** (the “Father-in-Law”) is 63 years old and is Viky Bohra’s father  
16 and Laksha Bohra’s father-in-law. Gotham Bohra resides part-time in Bothell, Washington, less  
17 than two miles away from his co-defendants, and is also a part-time resident of Redondo Beach,  
18 CA. Since 2017, Gotham Bohra has been employed as an engineer with a government contractor  
19 based in Los Angeles, California. Prior to that, he worked as an engineer at a large public  
20 company.

**OTHER RELEVANT ENTITY**

21  
22 11. **Amazon.com, Inc.** (“Amazon” or the “Company”) is a publicly-traded  
23 technology and retail company incorporated in Delaware and headquartered in Seattle,  
24 Washington. Amazon’s common stock was, during the time period addressed in this Complaint,  
25 and currently is, registered under Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78I] and listed  
26 on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the ticker “AMZN.”  
27  
28

**FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS****A. Bohra Had Access to Highly Confidential Amazon Earnings Information.**

12. From at least January 2016 through July 2018, as part of her work in Amazon's Tax Department, Bohra prepared and reviewed intercompany transaction calculations, which the Accounting Department used as part of its process to finalize the Company's quarterly and annual earnings numbers for its 10-Q and 10-K filings. Throughout this period, Bohra accessed and reviewed confidential financial reporting databases and shared network files.

13. At the end of each quarter, Amazon's Tax Department assisted the Accounting Department in preparing the Company's 10-Q or 10-K filing. As part of this quarter-close process, Bohra reviewed and signed off on files containing Amazon's intercompany transactions. These files also contained other information concerning Amazon's financial performance, including the Company's net revenues and operating expenses on a global level and for each corporate subsidiary on a twelve-month trailing basis.

14. Bohra and others in the Tax Department sent their proposed adjustments to the Accounting Department, which then sent the consolidated near-final numbers to Amazon's auditor. After the auditor's review, the Tax Department suggested any final adjustments. Bohra was at times involved in this secondary review process. The final numbers were then updated in a confidential database and posted to shared network folders accessible by the Tax Department. Bohra thus had access to Amazon's preliminary and final quarterly and annual numbers before they were publicly announced.

15. In addition, as a manager in Amazon's Tax Department, Bohra had ongoing access to Amazon's confidential financial databases. The group regularly retrieved information from the databases in order to perform certain intercompany transaction calculations throughout the year, not just at every quarter-end. Thus, Bohra had access to Amazon's real-time financial performance throughout her employment.

16. Amazon considered all of the above pre-release financial information to be confidential, highly sensitive, material, and nonpublic.

1           **B. Bohra Was Obligated to Maintain Confidentiality, to Refrain from Amazon**  
2           **Trades During Blackout Periods or Based on Insider Information, and to**  
3           **Pre-Clear All Amazon Options Trades.**

4           17. Throughout her employment, Amazon repeatedly informed Bohra that she owed  
5 an obligation to maintain the confidentiality of Amazon’s financial information, and to refrain  
6 from trading in Amazon securities based on material nonpublic information. Amazon conveyed  
7 these duties to her in its employment agreement, employee manual, insider trading policies  
8 (including Insider Trading Guidelines and FAQs), bi-annual ethics trainings, and quarterly email  
9 reminders—and reiterated these obligations in September 2017 after another Amazon finance  
10 employee was criminally convicted of insider trading.

11           18. In December 2012, Bohra signed an employment agreement at the start of her  
12 employment in which she agreed not to disclose the Company’s confidential information,  
13 including information in the Company’s financial statements such as revenues, expenses, and net  
14 income. Bohra also signed a mandatory certification acknowledging that she read, understood,  
15 and would comply with (1) the policies and practices set forth in Amazon’s employee manual,  
16 and (2) Amazon’s Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, which contained the Company’s insider  
17 trading policy, and the accompanying Insider Trading Guidelines and FAQs. The manual, policy,  
18 guidelines, and FAQs concerning insider trading were also made available on Amazon’s intranet  
19 page, were referenced in email reminders to Bohra, and were accessible to Bohra throughout her  
20 employment.

21           19. Amazon’s insider trading policy prohibited Bohra from trading securities while in  
22 possession of material nonpublic information and from passing on material nonpublic  
23 information to others or recommending to others that they trade in securities while in possession  
24 of material nonpublic information. The employee manual’s section on insider trading stated:  
25 “[I]f you have material information that has not been disclosed to the public by the company,  
26 you may not buy, sell, or enter into any other type of transaction involving any Amazon  
27 securities.” It also stated: “You may not give material nonpublic information to friends or family  
28 members or to any other third parties nor may you advise friends or family members or any other  
parties to trade based on material nonpublic information.”

1           20.     Amazon’s Insider Trading Guidelines, which provided further details on the  
2 Company’s insider trading policy, described “[a]ctual earnings or losses” as an example of  
3 material information.

4           21.     Moreover, as described in the employee manual, Bohra and certain other  
5 employees “and members of their households” were categorically prohibited from trading  
6 Amazon securities during certain blackout periods each quarter, “generally beginning on the first  
7 day of the last month of the company’s fiscal quarter and ending on the third day following the  
8 quarterly earnings announcement.” Bohra understood that these blackout periods applied to her  
9 and her household members, and she told her Husband that these trading restrictions applied to  
10 him.

11           22.     Every quarter, Bohra received emails from Amazon’s management—from an  
12 Amazon corporate email account named “tradingpolicy”—reminding her that she could not  
13 trade Amazon securities during the blackout period, and that even if a trading window was open,  
14 she could not trade if she possessed material nonpublic information about Amazon.

15           23.     These quarterly reminder emails “discouraged” trading in options or other  
16 derivative securities based on Amazon stock, and mandated that “all such transactions require  
17 preclearance” by the Legal Department. As further explained in Amazon’s Insider Trading  
18 FAQs, “puts, calls, warrants and other types of option securities” were required to “be cleared in  
19 advance with the Legal Department, regardless of whether that employee is otherwise subject to  
20 preclearance or to the trading window, even if that employee is not in possession of material  
21 nonpublic information.”

22           24.     These quarterly reminder emails further admonished Bohra that she was  
23 prohibited from “[p]assing material nonpublic information on to others or recommending to  
24 anyone the purchase or sale of the Company’s securities on the basis of such information,”  
25 emphasizing that the Company’s insider trading policy also applied “to transactions by family  
26 members and other persons living in an employee’s household.”

27           25.     On September 28, 2017, Bohra received another pointed reminder about the  
28 insider trading prohibition from Amazon’s CFO. Following an Amazon employee’s criminal

insider trading conviction and settlement with the SEC for passing earnings information to a friend, the CFO noted Amazon’s “zero tolerance” for insider trading, explaining that “compliance with securities law and protecting confidential information are paramount to the work we do at Amazon but particularly in the Finance organization,” and included an insider-trading training video. This email was sent to the entire Finance organization, including Bohra, which reminded recipients of their duty to “protect confidential information even from inadvertent disclosures.”

26. As an Amazon employee, Bohra completed mandatory training on the Company’s insider trading policy every two years, and most recently completed the training in December 2017.

**C. The Bohra Defendants Maintain Control of the Family Brokerage Accounts.**

27. All told, the Bohra Defendants maintain control over 11 separate brokerage accounts with the same brokerage firm, some of which are owned by Bohra’s mother-in-law (“Mother-in-Law”) and Bohra’s sister-in-law (“Sister-in-Law”). All of the accounts are connected to three usernames associated with Bohra and her Father-in-Law, such that those usernames have control over multiple accounts at the same time. The following table summarizes the usernames and accounts to which the usernames were granted access:

Username	Parent Account	Parent Account Owner	Linked Account	Linked Account Owner
lakdel [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]918	Laksha Bohra	[REDACTED]497* <sup>1</sup>	Husband (Viky Bohra)
			[REDACTED]445	Husband (Viky Bohra)
skiam [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]081	Father-in-Law (Gotham Bohra)	[REDACTED]497*	Husband (Viky Bohra)
			[REDACTED]495	Mother-in-Law
skisav [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]407	Father-in-Law (Gotham Bohra)	[REDACTED]529	Father-in-Law (Gotham Bohra)
			[REDACTED]577	Mother-in-Law
			[REDACTED]749	Mother-in-Law
			[REDACTED]917	Husband (Viky Bohra)
			[REDACTED]691	Sister-in-Law

<sup>1</sup> The [REDACTED]497 account owned by Bohra’s Husband is linked to both the lakdel [REDACTED] and skiam [REDACTED] usernames.

1 28. Despite ownership by just Bohra and her Father-in-Law, the three usernames  
2 were used to conduct Amazon securities transactions in all 11 accounts.

3 29. All three usernames (lakdel [REDACTED], skiam [REDACTED], and skisav [REDACTED]) frequently  
4 logged in from Bohra and her Husband's residence in Bothell, WA as well as from her  
5 Husband's then-current places of employment.

6 30. The two usernames owned by Bohra's Father-in-Law (skiam [REDACTED] and  
7 skisav [REDACTED]) frequently logged in from his residence in Bothell, WA as well as from his  
8 residence in Redondo Beach, CA after he started living part-time at that address.

9 31. There were numerous occasions where one username would be logged in from  
10 Bohra and her Husband's Bothell residence or from her Husband's workplace at or around the  
11 same time another username would be logged in from her Father-in-Law's Bothell residence or  
12 her Father-in-Law's part-time Redondo Beach residence.

13 32. The Bohra Defendants informed the brokerage firm's representatives that it was  
14 their desire to exercise actual common control of all the brokerage accounts owned by their  
15 family members. As a result, all 11 brokerage accounts were held and managed in a familial  
16 manner such that the assets were held in common for the family.

17 33. In particular, in or around November 2014, Bohra told the brokerage firm that her  
18 Husband traded in her account. Similarly, in or around August 2018, Bohra's Husband called the  
19 brokerage firm, explained that he was "trying to buy Amazon," and asked questions about  
20 Bohra's account. This prompted the brokerage firm's representative to request to speak with  
21 Bohra, who immediately picked up the phone and answered security questions such as the  
22 approximate current value of her account. Bohra then told the representative that she approved of  
23 whatever changes that her Husband was attempting to make to her account.

24 34. Bohra's Father-in-Law sometimes identified himself to the brokerage firm's  
25 representatives by the name of Bohra's Mother-in-Law when communicating about accounts  
26 held in her name. And in or around April 2018, Bohra's Father-in-Law told the brokerage firm  
27 that he treated his and his wife's accounts as the same "because we are all one family," and in  
28 referencing securities trading decisions, he stated: "We all treat it as one family thing."



1 Similarly, in or around June 2018, Bohra's Father-in-Law introduced himself by his own name  
2 and proceeded to inform the brokerage firm's representative that he had been buying and selling  
3 Amazon securities "quite frequently" in the account belonging to Bohra's Mother-in-Law and  
4 asked detailed questions concerning those transactions.

5  
6 **D. From January 2016 to July 2018, Bohra's Husband and Bohra's Father-in-**  
7 **Law Executed Amazon Trades Ahead of Every Amazon Earnings**  
8 **Announcement, and These Trades Occurred During Prohibited Blackout**  
9 **Periods.**

10 35. Between January 2016 and July 2018, Bohra's Husband and Bohra's Father-in-  
11 Law collectively traded in Amazon securities regularly, including ahead of every single Amazon  
12 earnings announcement. The trades ahead of Amazon's earnings announcements occurred during  
13 trading blackout periods that were imposed by Amazon on Bohra and members of her  
14 household.

15 36. Additionally, Bohra's Husband and Bohra's Father-in-Law frequently traded  
16 Amazon stock options. A "call option" is a financial contract between two parties that gives the  
17 buyer the right, but not the obligation, to buy an agreed quantity of stock during a specified time  
18 period for a specified price, known as the strike price. A "put option" is a financial contract that  
19 gives the buyer the right, but not the obligation, to sell an agreed quantity of stock. A buyer of  
20 call or put options pays a fee, or premium, to purchase this right. A buyer of a call option  
21 generally stands to gain if the price of the stock increases, while a buyer of a put option generally  
22 stands to gain if the price of the stock decreases.

23 37. In order to trade Amazon options, Bohra was required by Amazon to first obtain  
24 express preclearance from Amazon's Legal Department, whether the trades were for her own  
25 account or in the account of a household member. But Bohra did not seek or obtain such  
26 preclearance.

27 38. Between January 2016 and July 2018, the Bohra Defendants used material  
28 nonpublic information about Amazon's financial performance to trade ahead of 11 Amazon  
earnings announcements and made, in total, a profit of approximately \$1.4 million from these  
trades.

1           **E.       Bohra Provided Material Nonpublic Information About Amazon.**

2           39.       Between January 2016 and July 2018, Bohra provided to her Husband material  
3 nonpublic information about Amazon's financial performance. Bohra or her Husband then  
4 provided this same information to Bohra's Father-in-Law. Bohra's Husband and Bohra's Father-  
5 in-Law then traded Amazon securities in the brokerage accounts in the names of the Bohra  
6 Defendants, Bohra's Mother-in-Law, and Bohra's Sister-in-Law.

7           40.       The Bohra Defendants' actions surrounding the fourth fiscal quarter of 2017 and  
8 first fiscal quarter of 2018 earnings announcements are illustrative of their years of insider  
9 trading.

10                           **1.       Trading In Advance of the Q4 2017 Earnings Announcement and 10-  
11                           K Filing**

12           41.       Between around January 2, 2018 and January 16, 2018, Amazon's Tax  
13 Department worked on the quarter-close process for the fourth fiscal quarter of 2017. As part of  
14 that process, Bohra completed her initial review of the financial model for that quarter on  
15 January 9, 2018.

16           42.       Prior to the completion of Bohra's initial review, her Husband had purchased 500  
17 Amazon shares in put options in his account on January 8. These put options had an expiration  
18 date of February 16, 2018, and they represented his expectation that Amazon's stock price would  
19 fall by that date. Amazon's fourth fiscal quarter and year end 2017 earnings were scheduled to  
20 be announced on February 1, 2018.

21           43.       On January 10, 2018, Bohra used her work computer to access and review a  
22 spreadsheet saved on the Finance Department's shared network folder for Accounting Reports  
23 that detailed the Company's U.S. income statement.

24           44.       On January 12, 2018, Bohra hosted a fiscal quarter of 2017 review meeting with  
25 her team and also used her work computer to view a financial news website's coverage of  
26 Amazon and its stock price.

1           45.     On January 15, 2018, Bohra used her work computer to search Google for  
2 “AMZN.” On that same day, Bohra also accessed and reviewed the file containing Amazon’s  
3 U.S. income statement, which she had previously reviewed on January 10, 2018.

4           46.     On January 16, 2018, the earnings numbers for the Company’s earnings report  
5 were finalized. On that same day, Bohra used her work computer to look up the income  
6 statement for Amazon’s prior quarter, and she visited Amazon’s Investor Relations website to  
7 view the prior quarter’s results. She then looked up a news article from October 2017 reporting  
8 that Amazon’s stock price went up after the company’s financial results beat expectations in the  
9 prior quarter, and she viewed a section of the NASDAQ.com website that provided a comparison  
10 of the estimated and reported EPS for Amazon’s prior quarters and described the current  
11 consensus EPS forecast for the fourth fiscal quarter of 2017.

12           47.     Over the next few days, Bohra continued to access Amazon’s confidential  
13 financial information, including Amazon’s global consolidated income statement and auditor-  
14 reviewed adjustments to the quarter’s financial model. Bohra also repeatedly looked up  
15 Amazon’s stock price and financial news coverage of Amazon.

16           48.     During this same period, Bohra’s Husband sold the put options that were held in  
17 his account and instead purchased both Amazon common stock and Amazon call options in his  
18 account as well as accounts belonging to Bohra’s Father-in-Law and Bohra’s Mother-in-Law,  
19 now betting that Amazon’s stock price would increase.

20           49.     For example, on the morning of January 19, 2018, Bohra’s Husband logged into  
21 the brokerage firm’s website with Bohra’s username from their home address and purchased 200  
22 shares of Amazon common stock in his account.

23           50.     On the morning of January 22, 2018, Bohra’s Husband again logged in from his  
24 home and sold the 500 Amazon shares in put options that were in his account and replaced them  
25 with a purchase of 1,000 Amazon shares in call options. That afternoon, Bohra’s Husband  
26 logged in from his workplace to purchase 4,000 Amazon shares in call options in his account;  
27 2,000 Amazon shares in the same call options in one of Bohra’s Mother-in-Law’s accounts;  
28 1,000 Amazon shares in the same call options in another of Bohra’s Mother-in-Law’s account;

1 and 1,000 Amazon shares in the same call options in Bohra's Father-in-Law's account. The call  
2 options purchased that afternoon had the same strike price and expiration date.

3 51. Over the next few days, Bohra's Husband and Bohra's Father-in-Law continued  
4 to purchase Amazon common stock and call options, selling call options they had purchased on  
5 January 22 and 23 and replacing them with new call options at higher strike prices that they  
6 purchased on January 24, 25, and 26, and on February 1.

7 52. Throughout this purchasing period, Bohra communicated with her Husband and  
8 her Father-in-Law via phone calls and text messages, and she frequently used her work computer  
9 to look up Amazon's latest stock price on a financial website.

10 53. By the time that Amazon's fourth fiscal quarter and year end 2017 earnings was  
11 announced on February 1, 2018, Bohra's Husband and Bohra's Father-in-Law had spent more  
12 than \$850,000 on purchasing Amazon call options and common stock in order to trade, at least in  
13 part, based on the material nonpublic information that Bohra had provided.

14 54. None of the transactions were pre-cleared by Amazon's Legal Department, and  
15 all were executed during the Company's trading blackout period. Each of these trades was  
16 entered using one of the three primary usernames used by the Bohra Defendants to access their  
17 brokerage accounts.

18 55. On February 1, 2018, at or around 1:00 p.m. when the market closed, Bohra  
19 visited Amazon's Investor Relations website. Bohra also visited a section of the NASDAQ.com  
20 website called "Amazon.com, Inc. (AMZN) Earnings Report Date" that provided the "consensus  
21 EPS forecast for the quarter" based on analysts' forecasts. Bohra viewed a financial news article  
22 called "Amazon fourth quarter 2017 earnings" coverage of Amazon's expected earnings  
23 announcement that day and searched Google on her work computer for "amazon earnings" and  
24 "what time does the market close." She also conducted a news search about "amazon earnings"  
25 on Twitter and viewed tweets about Amazon's earnings announcement from her work computer.

26 56. On February 1, 2018, after the market closed, Amazon announced its fourth fiscal  
27 quarter and year end 2017 earnings. The next day, February 2, 2018, Amazon's stock price  
28 increased 2.87% over the prior day's closing price.

1           57.     On the morning of February 2, 2018, Bohra's Husband logged in with Bohra's  
2     username from their home and sold Amazon call options in his and Bohra's Father-in-Law's  
3     accounts. One minute later, Bohra's Husband logged in with Bohra's Father-in-Law's username  
4     from an IP address near Kent, WA and sold Amazon call options held in an account belonging to  
5     Bohra's Mother-in-Law. Eight minutes after that, Bohra's Father-in-Law logged in with his  
6     username from his residence in Redondo Beach, CA. On February 5, 2018, Bohra's Husband  
7     logged in with Bohra's username from their home and sold the remaining Amazon common  
8     stock in his account.

9           58.     In total, accounts belonging to Bohra's Husband, her Father-in-Law, and her  
10    Mother-in-Law made a profit of approximately \$664,000 by trading Amazon common stock and  
11    Amazon call options ahead of Amazon's fourth fiscal quarter and year end 2017 earnings  
12    announcement.

13                   **2.     Trading In Advance of the Q1 2018 Earnings Announcement and 10-**  
14                   **Q Filing**

15           59.     Between around April 2, 2018 and April 16, 2018, Amazon's Tax Department  
16    worked on the quarter-close process for the first fiscal quarter of 2018.

17           60.     Bohra and her Husband were on vacation in Europe from around April 5, 2018  
18    through April 19, 2018, but Bohra brought her work computer with her on their trip.

19           61.     Amazon finalized the earnings numbers for its first fiscal quarter of 2018 earnings  
20    report on April 16, 2018, while Bohra and her Husband were still on their vacation. By logging  
21    in remotely to Amazon's network through her work computer, Bohra accessed Amazon's  
22    preliminary quarterly earnings numbers on April 11 and 12, 2018, and accessed Amazon's  
23    auditor-reviewed earnings numbers on April 18, 2018, including Amazon's consolidated balance  
24    sheet and consolidated income statement.

25           62.     The morning of April 18, 2018, Bohra's Husband logged into the brokerage  
26    firm's website repeatedly with Bohra's username from Athens, Greece, and purchased Amazon  
27    call options in his account. While these trades were being placed, Bohra's Father-in-Law  
28    repeatedly logged in with his username from his home in Bothell, WA. A few hours later,

1 Bohra's Husband repeatedly logged in from Athens using Bohra's username and Bohra's Father-  
2 in-Law's usernames to purchase additional Amazon call options in his account and to purchase  
3 Amazon call options with the same strike price and expiration date in Bohra's Father-in-Law and  
4 Bohra's Mother-in-Law's accounts. Immediately after these trades were completed, Bohra's  
5 Father-in-Law logged in with his username from his home in Bothell, WA.

6 63. On the morning of April 26, 2018—the day of Amazon's earnings  
7 announcement—Bohra's Husband purchased additional Amazon call options in his account,  
8 Bohra's Father-in-Law's account, and Bohra's Mother-in-Law's accounts. And, at or around  
9 12:50 p.m. on April 26, 2018—just 10 minutes before the first fiscal quarter of 2018 earnings  
10 announcement—Bohra's Husband acquired an additional 1,000 Amazon shares in call options in  
11 his account.

12 64. On April 26, 2018, after the market closed, Amazon announced its first quarter  
13 2018 earnings. The next day, April 27, 2018, Amazon's stock price increased 3.6% over the  
14 prior day's closing price.

15 65. Shortly after Amazon's earnings announcement on April 26, 2018, Bohra  
16 searched Google on her work computer for "Amazon stoc[k]" and visited a financial news article  
17 titled "Amazon Earnings Q1 2018."

18 66. That evening on April 26, 2018, from 7:56 p.m. until 11:20 p.m., Bohra and her  
19 Husband exchanged multiple calls and text messages, and Bohra's Husband and Father-in-Law  
20 exchanged multiple calls and text messages from 8:10 p.m. until 9:34 p.m.

21 67. The next morning, on April 27, 2018, Bohra's Father-in-Law logged in from his  
22 Redondo Beach residence using his username and sold Amazon call options held in his accounts  
23 and in Bohra's Mother-in-Law's accounts. That same morning, Bohra's Husband logged in from  
24 his home with Bohra's username and sold Amazon call options held in his accounts.

25 68. None of the transactions were pre-cleared by Amazon's Legal Department, and  
26 all were executed during the Company's prohibited blackout period. In total, the Bohra  
27 Defendants made a profit of approximately \$591,000 by trading ahead of Amazon's first fiscal  
28 quarter of 2018 earnings announcement.

1           69.     A few weeks later, in June 2018, Bohra’s Father-in-Law called the brokerage firm  
2 to discuss the account belonging to Bohra’s Mother-in-Law. He explained to the brokerage firm  
3 representative that he had been buying and selling Amazon stock in this account “quite  
4 frequently” and complained that the brokerage firm’s determination of the cost basis of Amazon  
5 stock was different from what it should be based on his own calculations. The brokerage firm  
6 representative offered to review this issue and to send a report of all Amazon transactions in the  
7 account for the past four months. The brokerage firm sent a 13-page letter addressed to Bohra’s  
8 Mother-in-Law that outlined all of her account’s trading in Amazon options and delivered it via  
9 its online messaging service.

10           **F.     The Bohra Defendants Acted with Scienter.**

11           70.     At the time of the trading described above, Bohra knew, or was reckless in not  
12 knowing, that the information regarding Amazon’s earnings results and financial performance  
13 was confidential to Amazon before it was released publicly.

14           71.     At the time of the trading described above, Bohra owed Amazon a fiduciary duty,  
15 or an obligation arising from a relationship of trust or confidence, to keep confidential any  
16 material nonpublic information regarding Amazon’s quarterly and annual earnings results and  
17 financial performance. And from at least January 2016 through July 2018, Bohra knew, or was  
18 reckless in not knowing that she was prohibited from trading on the basis of the material  
19 nonpublic information about Amazon’s earnings. Indeed, the Company repeatedly reminded  
20 Bohra of restrictions prohibiting her from trading Amazon securities, or tipping others to trade,  
21 based on the confidential Amazon information, including reminders regarding the Company’s  
22 insider trading policy, trading blackout periods, and frequent emails about trading restrictions.

23           72.     Bohra breached her duty of confidentiality to Amazon by providing the material  
24 nonpublic financial information to her Husband, which she or her Husband then provided to her  
25 Father-in-Law, knowing that her Husband and her Father-in-Law would trade Amazon securities  
26 based on the confidential information.

27           73.     At the time of the trading described above, Bohra’s Husband, Viky Bohra, also  
28 acted with scienter. He traded Amazon stock, at least in part, on the basis of the material

1 nonpublic information Bohra provided to him, and passed on the material nonpublic information  
 2 to Bohra's Father-in-Law. He knew, or was reckless in not knowing, that the information was  
 3 nonpublic. He also knew, was reckless in not knowing, or should have known that Bohra  
 4 provided the material nonpublic information in breach of her duty of trust or confidence to  
 5 Amazon.

6 74. Similarly, at the time of the conduct described above, Bohra's Father-in-Law,  
 7 Gotham Bohra, acted with scienter. He traded Amazon stock, at least in part, on the basis of the  
 8 material nonpublic information Bohra or Bohra's Husband provided to him. He knew, or was  
 9 reckless in not knowing, that the information was nonpublic. He also knew, was reckless in not  
 10 knowing, or should have known that Bohra provided the material nonpublic information in  
 11 breach of her duty of trust or confidence to Amazon.

### **FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

#### **Violations of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 Thereunder (The Bohra Defendants)**

15 75. The SEC realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 78, as  
 16 though fully set forth herein.

17 76. By engaging in the conduct described above, Laksha Bohra, Viky Bohra, and  
 18 Gotham Bohra, in connection with the purchase or sale of securities, directly or indirectly, by the  
 19 use of the means or instrumentalities of interstate commerce, or of the mails, or of the facilities  
 20 of a national securities exchange, with scienter:

- 21 (a) employed devices, schemes, or artifices to defraud;
- 22 (b) made untrue statements of material fact or omitted to state material facts  
 23 necessary in order to make the statements made, in the light of the circumstances  
 24 under which they were made, not misleading; and/or
- 25 (c) engaged in acts, practices, or courses of business which operated or would operate  
 26 as a fraud or deceit upon other persons, including purchasers and sellers of  
 27 securities.

28 77. By engaging in the foregoing conduct, Laksha Bohra, Viky Bohra, and Gotham



1 Bohra each violated Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)] and Rule 10b-5  
2 thereunder [17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5].

3 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

4 WHEREFORE, the SEC respectfully requests that this Court:

5 I.

6 Permanently restrain and enjoin the Bohra Defendants from, directly or indirectly,  
7 violating Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)] and Rule 10b-5 thereunder [17  
8 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5];

9 II.

10 Order the Bohra Defendants to disgorge all ill-gotten gains or unjust enrichment derived  
11 from the activities set forth in this Complaint, together with prejudgment interest thereon;

12 III.

13 Order the Bohra Defendants to pay civil monetary penalties under Section 21A of the  
14 Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78u-1];

15 IV.

16 Retain jurisdiction of this action in accordance with the principles of equity and the  
17 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in order to implement and carry out the terms of all orders and  
18 decrees that may be entered, or to entertain any suitable application or motion for additional  
19 relief within the jurisdiction of this Court; and

20 V.

21 Grant such other and further relief as this Court may deem just, equitable, and necessary.  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

1 Dated: September 28, 2020

2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sallie S. Kim

Sallie S. Kim (Conditionally Admitted  
Pursuant to LCR 83.1(c)(2))  
Securities and Exchange Commission  
44 Montgomery Street, Suite 2800  
San Francisco, California 94104  
Telephone: (415) 705-2500  
Facsimile: (415) 705-2501  
Email: KimSal@sec.gov  
*Attorney for Plaintiff Securities and  
Exchange Commission*