

CENTRAL ANTI-CORRUPTION BUREAU

<https://www.cba.gov.pl/en/news/241,Extortion-of-75-million-PLN-from-ARMiR-Agency-for-Restructuring-and-Modernization.html>
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Extortion of 7.5 million PLN from ARMiR (Agency for Restructuring and Modernization of Agriculture). Overpaid promotional order in the city hall.

- Producer group from Wielkopolska overestimated the value of purchased property by 19 times. 7.5 million losses of the government agency. A notice of suspicion of a crime by a person from the former management of the Poznań branch of ARMiR and the president of the company-group.
- The promotion office of Poznań chose the most expensive offer for the production of the film for over a quarter million zlotys. Among the rejected offers was a bid four times cheaper. There is a notice of suspicion of a crime committed by the former director of this office.

The Regional Office of the Central Anticorruption Office in Poznań submitted a notification to the District Prosecutor's Office in Poznań of a justified suspicion of committing an offense (article 231 § 2 of the Penal Code) by a person from the former directorate and two employees of the Regional Branch of the Agency for Restructuring and Modernization of Agriculture in Poznań. Described actions in the notice are related to the damage in the assets of the Agency for Restructuring and Modernization of Agriculture in the amount of approx. 7.5 million PLN.

The findings of the CBA agents indicate, that the Poznań ARMiR issued a decision to grant a multi-million subsidy to one of the fruit and vegetable producers group to buy a property with warehouses located in the Pomeranian Voivodeship, without verifying or inspecting why within 8 months (from August 2011 to May 2012).) its value increased from the amount of 0.5 million PLN (resulting from the first documents) to almost 9.5 million PLN (which was already reflected in the documents submitted for specific co-financing).

The rapid increase in the value of real estate in such a short period of time, gives rise to justified doubts as to whether the purpose of the transaction was to extort public funds.

The CBA notice also involves the chairman of the management board of the company to bring ARMiR to the unfavorable disposal of property by misleading the institution - the crime of fraud. As the CBA determined, the president of the company-group, representing the interests of the fruit and vegetable producers group, bought the property from a family-related person.

The CBA has requested the prosecutor's office to entrust the proceeding to the Poznań Regional Office of the CBA.

In connection with the findings of the control carried out by the CBA at the Poznań City Hall, concerning public procurement awarded by the City Promotion Office in the years 2013-2015, the CBA's Regional Office in Poznań submitted to the District Prosecutor's Office in Poznań a notice of possibility of commitment of a crime by the former Director of this office.

The case concerns failure to fulfill the obligations and abuse of authority in choosing the offer for the preparation and production of promotional and film materials in the "Poznan Convention Bureau" project. The most expensive bid was chosen - for over a quarter million zlotys. Among the rejected offers was a bid four times cheaper.

In the opinion of CBA agents - the subjective, indeterminate and unqualified criteria applied by the City Promotion Office, made it possible for the office, to choose or reject an offer at pleasure, without giving reasons and justification. That's what happened.

The cheapest offer amounted to 57.5 thousand PLN, but a more expensive offer by nearly 200 thousand zł was chosen. There is no justification for such a choice. Excluding cheaper offers, the promotion office did not explain why they had not been chosen.

The findings of the CBA's control indicate, that the amount of 200 thousand PLN may be the damage of the Poznań City Hall. Hence, the notice of the possibility of committing the crime.



