## CENTRAL ANTI-CORRUPTION BUREAU

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## The CBA breaks up a group of traffickers of false invoices - already 9 detainees

Officers of the Regional Office of the CBA in Łódź detained in Silesia and Mazovia three people suspected of being part of a group dealing in the sale of fictitious VAT invoices. They are: a businessman from Silesia, a signing clerk of one of the Warsaw construction companies and a middleman. The chain of fictitious transactions served to lower taxes at the expense of the State Treasury. In this thread, the amount of invoices amounts to over PLN 1 million.

The CBA agents secured documents of the Warsaw construction company.

Persons detained by the CBA were sent to the District Prosecutor's Office in Katowice, where they will hear allegations from the amended in 2017 Penal Code, which in art. 271a introduced new types of prohibited acts, including qualified ones, related to the invoice turnover.

Already earlier, in November last year the officers from the CBA Regional Office in Łódź detained red-handed three businessmen from the construction industry in one of the Katowice hotels while they were trading fictitious VAT invoices. Only for the issuance of a fictitious invoice, the traders wanted about 20% of its value. As a result of the subsequent activities, the CBA detained three more persons involved in this dealing.

The CBA has already secured a number of accounting documents; including invoices for imaginary services, electronic carriers and data. CBA agents investigate the size and scope of distribution of fictitious VAT invoices by this group, they determine the sum of losses due to unpaid taxes and extorted VAT.

The officers of the CBA conducting the proceeding do not rule out subsequent detentions and enlargement of the list of charges in this case.

Only the Regional Office of the CBA in Łódź conducts, under the supervision of the prosecutor's office, a whole range of tax fraud investigations - revealed losses of the State Treasury due to such criminal activity reach many tens of millions of zlotys.

