

CENTRAL ANTI-CORRUPTION BUREAU

<https://www.cba.gov.pl/en/news/275,Extortion-of-30-million-VAT-quotLaunderedquot-161-million-PLN-Detained-CEOs.html>
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Extortion of 30 million VAT. "Laundered" 161 million PLN. Detained CEOs

The president and vice-president of a large Warsaw temporary work agency were detained by CBA's agents from Łódź. In the detentions were also involved soldiers from the Military Gendarmerie. In the same case police officers from the provincial headquarters detained a member of the management board of a company dealing with job agency. Everyone fell into the hands of the CBA and the police in Warsaw.

The organized group aimed at committing crimes involving fictitious trade in goods and issuing unreliable VAT invoices, depleting the State Treasury's tax receivables, as well as legalizing money laundering coming from crime proceeds.

As part of the company's specifically complex fictitious activity - clothing and fabric trade, detainees issued VAT invoices, attesting untruth about the actual implementation of the invoiced purchase of goods and documenting transactions that did not actually take place. The investigation has shown, that the trade in clothes is just a cover for criminal activity. In this way, the detainees led to the extortion of the tax refund of great value - in the years 2014-2016 it was over 30 million PLN to the detriment of the State Treasury. As part of an organized criminal group, through the system of companies and transfers, they "laundered" over 161 million zlotys proceeds from crimes. The CBA agents searched the detainee's flats and the company's registered office. All three detainees in the prosecutor's office in Lodz were charged with money laundering, participation in an organized criminal group and extortion of VAT refund of great value.

In June last year officers from the CBA Regional Office from Łódź detained a

businessman in one of the restaurants in Łódź, in the act of selling fictitious VAT invoices. To this day, in this investigation supervised by the District Prosecutor's Office in Łódź, charges regarding participation in the years 2014-2017 in an organized criminal group heard 32 suspects: intermediaries, helpers and representatives of companies. These groups were intended to commit crimes involving fictitious trade of textile goods and issuing unreliable VAT invoices. One of the men detained by the Central Anticorruption Bureau - a representative of the Warsaw-based company owned by foreigners was to "launder" nearly 25 million PLN of "dirty" cash.

The officers of the Central Anticorruption Bureau conducting the proceeding still do not rule out further detentions and extension of the list of charges in these investigations.



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