

CENTRAL ANTI-CORRUPTION BUREAU

<https://www.cba.gov.pl/en/news/281,Extortions-from-PFRON-Already-75-suspects-in-the-case.html>
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Extortions from PFRON. Already 75 suspects in the case

As part of the investigation conducted by the Regional Office of the CBA in Poznań regarding a group dealing with extortion of funds from the State Fund for Rehabilitation of the Disabled Persons, the Regional Prosecutor's Office in Poznań, charged another person. Among the 75 suspects currently suspected are persons who manage companies that have been used to extort money from PFRON, but also employees, who concluded fictitious employment contracts, thereby participating in fraudulent practice.

The first detentions took place in December 2016. The officers from the CBA's Poznań Regional Office detained the president, director and four employees of one of the local companies - a supported employment enterprise. The president was then temporarily arrested. The proceeding covers the activity of several related business entities, which since 2005 have received funding from PFRON in the amount exceeding a dozen or so million zlotys.

In PFRON, documents regarding the employment of disabled workers were submitted, in a situation, where these people did not actually provide such work. Illegally obtained money came from monthly subsidies from PFRON to remuneration of disabled employees.

Now, the National Prosecutor's Office decided to extend the investigation to September 8 and its scope has been widened - the activities of suspected further entities connected with the main suspect are being investigated.

In another investigation, initiated on the basis of operational materials and conducted by the CBA's Regional Office in Poznań, the Regional Prosecutor's Office in Poznań

sent charges against 25 accused persons to Regional Court in Poznań, including 314 charges concerning the extortion of over 6 million zlotys in public funds in connection to the implementation of EU projects in under the "Human Capital Operational Program - POKL." In addition to frauds, the defendants will also be responsible for crimes related to money laundering.

The CBA agents have determined, that fictitious invoices and documents that form the basis for obtaining financial support were submitted.

The case concerns the activities of board members of the Poznański Academic Business Incubator Association as well as persons and entities from the Wielkopolska region and other regions of the country that have cooperated in criminal activity.

Also in this case suspicious property was secured in the form of money and real estate.

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