

CENTRAL ANTI-CORRUPTION BUREAU

<https://www.cba.gov.pl/en/news/313,Another-thread-of-the-investigation-into-the-extortion-from-ARiMR-8-people-detail.html>
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Another thread of the investigation into the extortion from ARiMR. 8 people detained. A total of nearly 20 million losses

The officers of the CBA Regional Office in Rzeszów, by order of the District Prosecutor's Office in Rzeszów, detained another 8 people who are accused of extorting EU funds from the Agency for Restructuring and Modernization of Agriculture.

Detainees are so-called straw-persons. They by the order of Michał and Anna O. (private entrepreneurs detained in March by the CBA) were submitting applications to the ARiMR. The actual beneficiaries of the subsidies were Mr and Mrs O. The dealing lasted from at least 2004 to 2017 and consisted in illegal omission of provisions by the so-called artificial division of part of a large area of the land of Mr & Mrs O.'s farm into smaller plots, which were - only on paper supposed to belong to the so-called straw-persons. Thanks to such manipulations, the amount of subsidies granted was much higher than the one which could be granted for one large (undivided) farm.

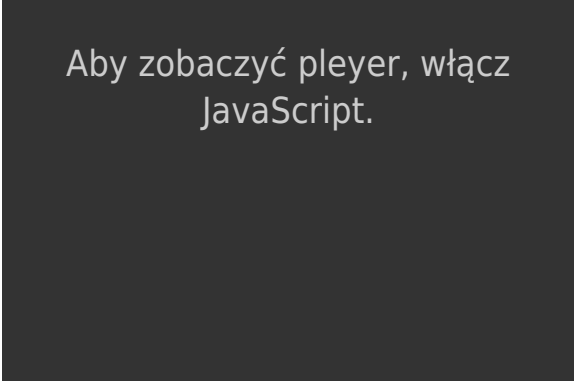
The findings of the CBA and the prosecutor's office indicate that a number of corruption crimes and acts detriment to the economic interest of the State could have taken place. As a result of submitting applications for EU subsidies, which contained false data, the representatives of the Agency for Restructuring and Modernization of Agriculture were misled, thereby leading to an unfavorable management of a property of large value. Losses reach to 10 million zł.

Against all 8 persons detained by the Rzeszów's CBA - the District Prosecutor's Office in Rzeszów brought charges of acting jointly and in agreement in order to obtain a financial benefit of great value.

These are subsequent detentions conducted by the CBA officers from Rzeszów. As we

reported in March this year the CBA agents from Podkarpacie have already detained seven people dealing with extortion of EU direct payments. Already then, the losses amounted to 9 million zł. After today's detentions, this amount may increase to 20 million zł.

The case is ongoing. Consecutive detentions of persons who operated within the framework of the criminal structure at various levels and corruption charges are not ruled out.



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