

## Overpriced expert opinions. Six detainees

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Six persons have been detained by the CBA in connection with possible irregularities in issuing opinions and expert examinations for the needs of courts and prosecutor's offices.

The officers of the CBA Regional Office in Katowice have detained 6 individuals on the territory of Mazovia and Silesia, including entrepreneurs who run business entities preparing opinions and expert examinations for the needs of courts and prosecutor's offices throughout the country.

The activities have been carried out in connection with the new investigation which has been conducted jointly by the CBA and the Regional Prosecutor's Office in Katowice for the past few months. The extensive evidence gathered in the case indicates that over the last 12 years, acts of abuse could have occurred in connection with drawing up opinions for the needs of courts and prosecutor's offices. All findings indicate that a number of companies managed by the same persons, bringing together experts and performing services for the administration of justice, could have overstated the amounts on invoices for the services rendered.

Following the completion of the activities in the detainees' places of residence, they were taken to the Regional Prosecutor's Office in Katowice, where they faced charges of participation in criminal activities of an organised crime group, attestations of an untruth in the documentation by overstating the remuneration due to experts for expert examinations, as well as fraud and attempted fraud to the detriment of the State Treasury.

The public prosecutor used non-custodial preventive measures against three detained suspects - bail bonds from PLN 25,000 to 100,000. In the case of the further three suspects, the court granted the prosecutor's request for pre-trial detention for a period of 3 months.

This is the first operation in this investigation.

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