

CENTRAL ANTI-CORRUPTION BUREAU

<https://www.cba.gov.pl/en/news/866,CBA-and-KAS-have-detained-33-persons-involved-in-VAT-extortion.html>
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CBA and KAS have detained 33 persons involved in VAT extortion

Another joint operation of the CBA, the National Tax Administration (KAS) and the Prosecutor's Office. The 33 detained persons have already been charged in the Regional Prosecutor's Office in Warsaw. The value of fraudulently issued VAT invoices recurring in the investigation exceeds PLN 1 billion.

Under the supervision of the Regional Prosecutor's Office in Warsaw, the officers of the CBA Regional Office in Kraków, in cooperation with the Mazovian Customs and Fiscal Office in Warsaw, have been investigating issuing and using fraudulent VAT invoices, certifying an untruth, in exchange for financial gain and reduction of the amount of public law liabilities. The scheme aimed to understate public-law liabilities towards the State Treasury. The documents issued covered fictitious transactions concerning the purchase and sale of services (including transport, construction, IT) and commercial goods worth at least PLN 1 billion. At present, about 1000 entities have been identified that participated in the disclosed criminal offence.

Almost 200 CBA and KAS officers have been engaged in the activities which were conducted in the Mazowieckie, Śląskie, Małopolskie, Łódzkie, Kujawsko-Pomorskie and Pomorskie Voivodships.

The detainees include the recipients of the fraudulent VAT invoices and the so-called shells, i.e. persons in whose names economic entities were set up and on whose behalf fictitious invoices were issued in the course of the scheme.

In the Regional Prosecutor's Office in Warsaw, charges of the so-called VAT crime and penal fiscal offences were pressed against the detainees.

The prosecutor applied non-custodial preventive measures against the detainees, in

the form of Police supervision, bans on contacting the other detainees, and bailout. The prosecutor submitted a request to the Court for temporary arrest against 4 of the detainees. The Court granted the prosecutor's requests.

Public Relations Division of the CBA



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