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Biden DOJ Incurs \$20M in Maintenance Costs for Russian's Superyacht

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Mon, Feb 12, 2024 at 12:06 PM

Good Afternoon:

I represent Eduard Khudainatov, a Russian businessman and rightful owner of the motoryacht Amadea, which was unlawfully seized by the Biden Administration nearly two years ago. On Friday the government filed a motion for interlocutory sale of the Amadea including the attached declaration that details for the first time maintenance and related costs incurred since the unlawful seizure.

The following statement can be attributed to Adam Ford and Renée Jarusinsky, counsel for the claimants:

The Biden Administration's motion to sell the Amadea states that maintenance and insurance costs have reached \$20 million and counting. But the government decided it was worth burdening American taxpayers with these costs when it unlawfully seized this superyacht almost two years ago, and then waited 18 months to file its forfeiture action.

Mr. Khudainatov, the Amadea's owner, has repeatedly offered to reimburse the American taxpayers for the maintenance costs if the government returns the Amadea to its rightful owner, to no avail.

The government's motion to sell the Amadea not only fails on the merits, but it is premature. The Court should deny the request until the Court determines whether the seizure was unconstitutional, and once an operative complaint has survived a motion to dismiss.

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