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Fwd: AMADEA: Khudainatov Files Appeal while DOJ Asks For His Help Selling the Boat, Court Rejects \$25M Bill of Costs

1 message

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From: **David Vermillion** <dv@vermillionadvisors.com>

Date: Mon, Apr 14, 2025 at 1:06 PM

Subject: AMADEA: Khudainatov Files Appeal while DOJ Asks For His Help Selling the Boat, Court Rejects \$25M Bill of Costs

To: David Vermillion <dv@vermillionadvisors.com>

Below please find a statement detailing a number of updates on the Amadea docket last week. I've also attached two related filings.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Khudainatov Files Notice of Appeal in Amadea Case, Slams Government's "Desperate" Request for Sale Help Amid \$25 Million Cost Spiral

Eduard Khudainatov, the rightful owner of the M/Y *Amadea*, has formally filed a notice of appeal in the Second Circuit, challenging the U.S. District Court's ruling that greenlit the vessel's forfeiture without affording him a trial or a hearing. Mr. Khudainatov will continue to pursue every legal remedy to reclaim his property, both in U.S. appellate courts and in appropriate international jurisdictions.

"This ruling was legally flawed, procedurally unjust, and in fundamental conflict with constitutional principles of due process," said Adam Ford, lead counsel for Mr. Khudainatov and Millemarin Investments. "The ruling dodged the clear facts that claimants had sufficient standing in the forfeiture. The court didn't find for the government on substance - it simply said Mr. Khudainatov couldn't argue his case at all, compounding the injustice. We will continue the fight until we get our property back."

In a bizarre and revealing development, the U.S. Department of Justice has asked Mr. Khudainatov - whose vessel they seized without trial - to help facilitate its sale by signing documents to retitle the yacht. This includes a request that he and his affiliates "renounce claims" to the *Amadea* and assist the government in selling it.

"This is like asking the victim of a carjacking to sign over the pink slip at the chop shop," said Ford. "It's absurd on its face, and deeply telling of the desperation the government now faces."

Adding to the pressure, the court recently rejected the DOJ's attempt to recover more than \$25.5 million in costs from Mr. Khudainatov for maintaining the *Amadea* during litigation. This filing marks the first public admission by the government of the extraordinary financial burden it has incurred in its campaign to seize and hold the vessel.

Because the appeal is now active, those costs will continue to accumulate - maintenance costs, legal fees, and storage expenses - until either the appeal is resolved or the yacht is sold.

“This has become a legal Odyssey where the U.S. government finds itself caught between Scylla and Charybdis,” said Ford. “They can’t sell a controversial, high-profile asset like the *Amadea* without help from its rightful owner. They can’t afford to keep it, and they can’t afford to litigate forever. But their own strategy has left them taking on water with no life raft. As the appeal moves forward, Mr. Khudainatov remains resolute. This vessel was taken unlawfully. We intend to get it back.”

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This material is distributed by Vermillion Advisors on behalf of Eduard Khudainatov. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

2 attachments

 **478-1.pdf**
413K

 **Microsoft Word - 2025_04_10 Notice of Taxation of Costs.pdf**
105K