



David Vermillion <dv@vermillionadvisors.com>

Fwd: Superyacht Amadea Hearing Update - Day One

1 message

David Vermillion <dv@vermillionadvisors.com>
 To: David Vermillion <dv@vermillionadvisors.com>

Tue, May 27, 2025 at 10:06 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: David Vermillion <dv@vermillionadvisors.com>
 Date: Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 8:25 PM
 Subject: Superyacht Amadea Hearing Update - Day One
 To: David Vermillion <dv@vermillionadvisors.com>

Good evening,

I represent Eduard Khudainatov, rightful owner of the motoryacht Amadea. Below please find an update on today's hearing.

Please contact me for additional information and to speak to lead counsel for Mr. Khudainatov in this matter, Adam Ford.

DV

=====

Day One Update: Evidentiary Hearing on U.S. Government's Motion to Strike, In Forfeiture of Superyacht Amadea

Claimants and U.S. Government Agree that Title of Ownership of Amadea Was Never Transferred

The first day of the evidentiary hearing on the DOJ's motion to strike - in fact the first hour - was sufficient to establish that the claimants have standing in the forfeiture proceedings. Claimants' attorneys, key witnesses, and the government all agree that there was never any transfer of ownership. Eduard Khudainatov is today, and has always been, the rightful owner of the Amadea.

Highlights from day one of the proceedings:

- The judge ruled that the declarations of several of the claimants' witnesses could not be introduced into evidence at the hearing, citing late notification of the names of the witnesses. This is despite the fact that these witnesses are central to the government's own allegations and known to the government for years. Those declarations are attached to this e-mail.
- Captain Guy Bennett-Pearce, captain of the Motoryacht Scheherezade, testified as to his knowledge of Mr. Khudainatov's ownership of both the Scheherezade and the Amadea, and Mr. Khudainatov's close personal involvement in the design and build of those vessels.
- Dinar Khalikov, an IT/AV and yacht consultant, testified that Suleiman Kerimov never bought - and never would buy - the Amadea for many reasons including, but not limited to, his extreme distaste for the boat's décor and strong aversion to the twin screw propulsion

system. Khalikov further testified as to specific details of the Kerimov family's charter of the vessel and their requests for changes to the boat as part of the charter agreement.

- Ekaterina Parfireva, an economist who works in Mr. Khudainatov's family office, testified as to her knowledge and involvement in the commission and construction of the Amadea, the ownership structure, and the purpose and intent of the temporary use agreement with Errigal.

Tomorrow the court will hear the second half of Parfireva's testimony along with the testimony of the former captain of the Amadea John Walsh, former Amadea head of security Martyn Messenger, and FBI agent Timothy Bergen.

###

--

Dave Vermillion
917.414.9769



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

5 attachments

-  **Evgeniy Kochman Declaration.pdf**
1580K
-  **Gulnara Kerimova Declaration.pdf**
256K
-  **Alisa Gadzhieva Declaration.pdf**
812K
-  **Victoria Pastukhova Declaration.pdf**
258K
-  **Lesley Reynard Declaration.pdf**
306K