

Actions undertaken by state authorities with regard to burglary and vandalism at the MaxMedia Publishing House in Warsaw

On July 7, 2020, police officers from the Patrol and Intervention Department of the Polish Police were summoned to the MaxMedia Publishing House in Warsaw. According to the notification, the reason for the summons was theft with burglary. The inspection report showed that one of the walls has an inscription painted in yellow with the following text: "FAKTY TVN WYPAD". Moreover, the Editor-in-Chief of "Fakty" magazine (who at the same time is CEO of the MaxMedia Publishing House) filed a criminal complaint on burglary and theft of hard drives. The damage was initially estimated at PLN 50,000.

On July 8, 2020, a decision was issued to initiate an investigation, and the next day the case files were submitted to the Warsaw Wola District Prosecutor's Office in Warsaw.

On July 10, 2020, the CEO of MaxMedia Publishing House sent a letter to the Criminal Division of the Warsaw Bemowo Police Station, in which he asked for the annulment of the burglary and theft report. However, this request could not be fulfilled as the Prosecutor of the District Prosecutor's Office for Warszawa Wola had already initiated proceedings in this case.

On July 13, 2020, the CEO of the MaxMedia Publishing House was questioned as a witness. During the police conduct, he refused to participate in procedural activities and to cooperate with law enforcement authorities claiming that the losses caused by the act of vandalism and burglary were not substantial enough for him to feel aggrieved. The witness testified that before the act an e-mail had been received in which the publishing house was "instructed" to seize its activities in Poland. At the same time, the CEO of MaxMedia Publishing House stated that he does not feel threatened by such correspondence as the editors of "Fakty" receive ca. 100 similar e-mail daily and the magazine is very often confused with news bulletin "Fakty" of TV broadcaster TVN.

The police activities undertaken by the officers of the Operational and Investigation Team of the Criminal Division of the Warsaw Bemowo Police Station have not resulted in the identification of the perpetrator or perpetrators. On the July 21, 2020 the police issued a decision on discontinuance of proceedings due to the fact that responsible of the act was/were not detected. On the July 30, 2020 prosecutor overseeing the investigation approved and validated this decision.