

# **A man, investigated by the NAC and the APO, was sentenced to 4 years in prison for fraud and influence peddling**



The Central Court of Balti has issued a conviction for a man found guilty of committing the crime of fraud and six episodes of influence peddling.

The court established, by partially cumulating the sentences, a final sentence in the form of imprisonment for a term of 4 years and one month. When individualizing the sentence, the court also took into account the fact that the defendant had been previously convicted by the sentence of the Balti Court of Sîngerei, dated March 31, 2021, for driving a vehicle while intoxicated to a high degree.

Until the sentence becomes final, a preventive measure in the form of preventive arrest was ordered for the defendant, and he was announced as wanted.

At the same time, the court ordered the confiscation of the funds in the amount of 121,461.46 lei, obtained illegally, from the defendant's account. The civil action filed by the injured party was also admitted, and the amount of 8,500.18 lei was ordered to be collected from the defendant's account, for its benefit, as material damage caused by the crime.

According to the evidence administered by the National Anti-corruption Centre (NAC), jointly with the Anti-corruption Prosecutor's Office (APO), during the years 2020-2021, the defendant, claiming that he had influence over public figures, members of the driver examination commissions within the Transport Registration and Driver Qualification Sections, allegedly demanded and received funds in foreign currency from seven people, equivalent to the total amount of 129,691 lei.

The money was allegedly claimed and received to encourage these individuals to take driving tests in order to obtain driving licenses.

The criminal case was sent to court in the absence of the defendant, as he evaded both the criminal prosecution and the examination of the case in court.

The sentence is not final and can be appealed to the Northern Court of Appeal within 15 days.

Note: A person accused of committing a crime shall be presumed innocent until proven guilty by a final court decision.