



A criminal and misdemeanour indictment

Drake & Scull: Criminal Court of Amman Begins Proceedings in the Khaldoun Al Tabari Case

- *Public prosecutor issues indictment as well as an arrest warrant against his daughter Zeina Al Tabari.*

Dubai, January 27, 2021 – Dubai-based contractor Drake & Scull International revealed that the Public Prosecutor in Amman, Jordan, has filed an indictment against Khaldoun Saeed Al Tabari, Zeina Khaldoun Al Tabari, and Saleh Mustafa Muradweij in Criminal Case No. (9994/2019) on charges that include the felony of committing fraud in buying, selling, or managing movable and immovable state or public authority funds, as per Article (175) of the Penal Code and Articles (2, 3 and 4) of the Jordanian Economic Crimes Law.

The UAE's Public Funds Prosecution had accused the former Drake & Scull CEO of several transgressions, namely, appropriating funds from a public joint-stock company (PJSC); squandering funds; profiteering and mismanagement, along with other financial crimes committed during his tenure as the company's CEO and Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors. The accusations were revealed following internal investigations conducted by the company under expert supervision. The Central Bank of the UAE directed banks operating in the Emirates to freeze Al Tabari's accounts – as well as those of his family members – as per the decision of the Abu Dhabi Attorney General.

Khaldoun Al Tabari left the UAE with his family in 2018 and has not returned since. He was arrested at the Queen Alia International Airport in Amman as he was departing Jordan to the United Kingdom, after Interpol issued a Red Notice for his arrest on January 7, 2020, following 15 criminal complaints filed against him by Drake & Scull, accusing him of financial transgressions worth more than AED 4 billion.

Drake & Scull collaborated with the relevant authorities in Jordan and government agencies in the UAE; procedures included in-depth investigations by representatives of Jordanian security and judicial authorities, as well as an audit of documents and investigations regarding Khaldoun Al Tabari's activities during his tenure at the company.

Investigations confirmed financial transgressions on Al Tabari's part, prompting the Amman Public Prosecutor to file an indictment, including a misdemeanour charge of fraud and breach of trust for Khaldoun Al Tabari and his daughter Zeina Al Tabari during the period where they



managed Drake & Scull in the UAE, in addition to a third person named Saleh Mustafa Muradweij.

The indictment against Al Tabari and his daughter included charges of squandering sums of money and appointing an external legal advisor without approval from the company's Board Of Directors. The company paid exaggerated legal fees to said advisor, who investigations later revealed was not a lawyer or legal advisor. The indictment also accused the Tabaris of disbursing unjustified sums of money to an entity, in addition to paying commission for the purchase of immovable property in Dubai's Palm Jumeirah.

In the indictment, Amman's Public Prosecutor noted: "In accordance with the provisions of Articles (202) and (203) of the Criminal Procedures Law, I am filing a public right case against the accused, Khaldoun Rashid Saeed Al Tabari, Saleh Mustafa Saleh Muradweij, and Zeina Khaldoun Saeed Rashid Al Tabari, for the felony of committing fraud in buying, selling, or managing movable and immovable state or public authority funds, as per Article (175) of the Penal Code and Articles (2, 3 and 4) of the Jordanian Economic Crimes Law."

Khaldoun Al Tabari was charged with three counts of each transgression, according to the indictment, in addition to the felony of interfering with fraud in buying, selling, or managing movable and immovable state or public authority funds, as per Article (175) of the Penal Code and Articles (2, 3 and 4) of the Jordanian Economic Crimes Law, regarding the accused Zeina Al Tabari. The indictment calls for them to stand trial for this felony before the Criminal Court of Amman, which has the authority, jurisdiction and right to weigh evidence and impose deterrent punishment against the accused, provided that they are also tried for the remaining misdemeanours in the indictment before the same court.

Furthermore, Amman's Attorney General issued an arrest warrant for Zeina Khaldoun Rashid Al Tabari who is to be handed over to the court as per Criminal Case (9994/2019), for incitement and interference in breach of trust, and using her position for fraud.

"According to Article (423) evidenced by Article (80) and Article (175) evidence by Article (80) of the Penal Code, and provided that her trial takes place in the Criminal Court of Amman, judicial police officers must arrest her and hand her over to the court," Amman's Public Prosecutor added.

The Criminal Court of Amman held several hearings in the case in the presence of accused Khaldoun Al Tabari and the absence of both his daughter Zeina Al Tabari and accused Saleh Muradweij.

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About Drake & Scull International PJSC

Drake & Scull International PJSC (DSI) is a regional market leader in world-class integrated design, engineering, and construction projects. DSI's main business streams include engineering (MEP), construction, oil & gas, and water & wastewater. The company operates across the GCC and the rest of the Middle East as well as Europe. DSI has completed more than 700 projects around the world in the aviation, residential and mixed-use real estate, power plant, cooling plant, hospitality, healthcare, renewable energy, data center, petrochemical, rail, commercial, government, leisure and infrastructure sectors.

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