

Kazkommertsbank applied for mitigation of sentence for Guzyal Baidalinova from Nakanune.kz

June 20, 2016, Almaty – Kazkommertsbank signed settlement agreement with Ms. Guzyal Baidalinova, desk editor and owner of Nakanune.kz web-site, on reduction of its claims for moral damage from KZT 20 mln to KZT 100,000. Kazkommertsbank also applied to the court on mitigation of criminal sentence for Ms. Baidalinova.

Bank considered that Ms. Baidalinova partially admitted her guilt and she was charged with criminal offence for the first time. In addition, the Bank received communications from Ms. Baidalinova, her lawyer and public representatives asking the Bank to extend its mercy and humanism given weak health and poor financial standing of Ms. Baidalinova.

Given the circumstances, major shareholder of the Bank Mr. Kenges Rakishev offered the Bank to mitigate claims to Ms. Baidalinova. After that, the Bank signed settlement agreement and applied to the court of appeal with request for mitigation of sentence for Ms. Baidalinova to non-custodial sentence. Court hearing on the request is expected in the nearest future.

Ms. Baidalinova was charged with civil and criminal offence based on two legal proceedings. In the framework of civil proceeding dated June 19, 2015 and according to the decision of Medeu District Court of Almaty number of articles about Kazkommertsbank published on <u>www.respublika-kaz.info</u> and Nakanune.kz websites have been recognized as deliberately misleading and causing material damage to Kazkommertsbank in amount of KZT 25 mln. by the "Republic" analytical portal's editorial board and KZT 20 mln. by Nakanune.kz website's editorial board.

Later in 2016 Kazkommertsbank applied to the DIA of Almaty city with request to charge owners and sponsors of deliberately misleading publications with criminal offence. Upon decision of the Almaly District Court of Almaty city dated 23 May 2016 Ms. Baidalinova was proved guilty of committing criminal violation in accordance with the article 274 part 3 of the Criminal Code of Kazakhstan (deliberate acts targeted at disclosure of deliberately misleading information by group of individuals/entities with previous concert and using mass media and informational and communicational networks) and sentenced to 18 months of imprisonment in general correctional colonies.

For enquiries:

Sergey Chikin, Head of Mass Media and Public Relations Unit PR Department of Kazkommertsbank +7 727 2585-105, extension: 57611, E-mail: <u>schikin@kkb.kz</u>