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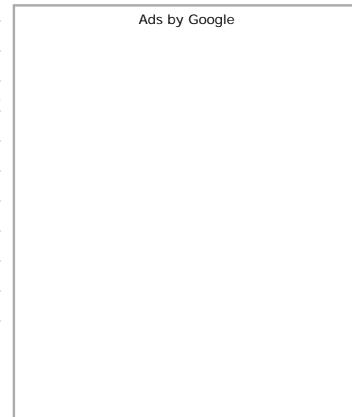
By COREY WILLIAMS | Associated Press Writer
3:49 PM CDT, July 23, 2009

DETROIT - Ex-Detroit Red Wings star [Sergei Fedorov](#) filed a lawsuit Thursday demanding \$60 million from a former financial adviser he claims swindled him out of money for more than a decade.

The suit, filed in Wayne County Circuit Court, said Joseph Zada swiped \$43 million the hockey player had entrusted to the Grosse Pointe Shores, Mich., businessman.

Zada also failed to follow through on a March 6 payment and confidentiality agreement to repay \$60 million, according to the suit, which describes Fedorov as a "Russian-born individual who has limited knowledge of, and experience in, investment, legal and financial matters."

It goes on to say that Zada, "by deceit and fraud worked his way into the confidence of Fedorov," and that Fedorov was led to believe he was a wealthy and successful investor after meeting him in 1998. Zada "acting in concert with others, intentionally lied to Fedorov" whenever he asked about the money.



In addition to the \$60 million, the suit also seeks costs, interest and attorney's fees.

Several calls by The Associated Press to a number listed as belonging to Zada went unanswered. A message also was left with a Birmingham, Mich., attorney listed beneath Zada's name on the March 6 agreement.

Zada told the Detroit Free Press that "repayment is imminent," but denied trying to scam the 39-year-old Fedorov. Zada said the money was a loan, not an investment.

"Show us the money," Fedorov's lawyer, Marc Beginin, told the AP on Thursday. "Mr. Zada has made assertions that payment is imminent, but has provided no proof of the source or timing of those promised payments."

Fedorov has returned to play hockey in Russia after defecting 19 years ago from the former Soviet Union. The NHL's 1994 league MVP and three-time Stanley Cup winner with Detroit signed a two-year contract earlier this year with Russian club Metallurg Magnitogorsk of the Kontinental Hockey League.

He left Saturday for preseason training in Moscow and soon will head off to Geneva for practice, Beginin said.

Fedorov spent 13 seasons with the Red Wings and later played with the Anaheim Ducks and Columbus Blue Jackets. He was shipped to Washington at the 2008 trade deadline.

He has 483 goals and 696 assists in 1,248 NHL games.

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