
Probe launched against former top managers of OAO Probiznesbank



The Central Office of the Investigative Committee has initiated criminal proceedings against former Business Development Vice-President of OAO Probiznesbank (hereinafter the Bank) Vyacheslav Kazantsev, Finance Vice-President and Vice-President of the Board of Directors Alexander Lomov, head of the corporate finance department Nikolai Alekseyev, head of the department for cooperation with shareholders and subsidiaries Marina Krylova, head of the problem debts department and CEO of OOO Laif Collector Agency Sergei Kalachev, heads of a number of sham firms Igor Polikarpov, Aleksei Simakov, Andrei Danukin, Lyudmila Shpagina, Oksana Krafchenko and other unidentified owners, top managers and employees of the Bank and Laif finance group over crimes under Part 4 of Article 160 and Parts 3, 5 of Article 33, Part 4 of Article 160 of the RF Penal Code (misappropriation or embezzlement; organization and complicity in misappropriation or embezzlement).

According to investigators, some unidentified people from among top managers and employees of the Bank used their official positions to steal money from the Bank, involving their subordinates, employees of Laif finance group and top managers of a number of sham firms in their criminal intentions. The general principle of the scam was to issue irrevocable and unguaranteed loans to the controlled sham firms and to transfer the loan money to their settlement accounts. After that the money was transferred to the accounts of those sham firms disguised as payment for fictitious transactions or purchase of non-liquid stock. Then, the money was exchanged for US dollars and transferred to different accounts of foreign companies and natural persons and spent by the accomplices for their needs. The loan documents were formally legal, but contained false information and all the actions of the accomplices were directed at stealing money from the Bank.

As a result, they stole about 2.5 billion rubles.

At present, a number of investigative operations are underway to find out all the details of the crime and the people involved in it. The investigation is ongoing.

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