In Saint Petersburg, case against pilot of airbus-319/320/321 squadron of large Russian airline sent to court

The Northwestern Transport Investigations Directorate of the Investigative Committee has finished an investigation against one of pilots of Airbus-319/320/321 squadron of a large airline Andrey Maneyev charged with a crime under Part 2, item "b" of Article 204 of the RF Penal Code (bribery in a profit-making organization) and 48 counts of a crime under Part 1 of Article 238 (illegal usage of an official document that certifies that unsafe works meet safety standards).

According to investigators, in 2011, in Chelyabinsk, Maneyev got acquainted with CEO of OOO Krylya Nevy General Aviation Training Center Andrei Kocharygin via an acquaintance of his, who later assisted the preliminary investigation. The two men agreed that Kocharygin would forge documents certifying that the accused had been trained in the Krylya Nevy Training Center between September and November 2011.

Based on those forged documents, the Supreme Qualifying Commission of the Federal Air Transport Agency of the Russian Federation, who did not know about Kocharygin's criminal actions, qualified Maneyev as a pilot of commercial aviation and issued him a qualification certificate. Kocharygin had received from the accused 150,000 rubles for the forgery and had not taken any courses.

After that Maneyev used the forged documents to get the job at a large Russian airline first as a pilot of professional pilot training group of the training and methodology department of the flight technical standards, and them he was appointed a second pilot of an Airbus-319/320/321.

In the period between November 2014 and February 2015, Maneyev carried out international flights on the said planes, and by that rendered unsafe air transportation services as he did not have piloting or air navigation skills enough to ensure safety of flights in case the first pilot was not able to fly due to health problems or other reasons.

The said crimes were revealed during close cooperation among the investigators of the Northwestern Transport Investigations Directorate, operatives of the Transport Office of the Northwestern Federal District Department of the Russian Ministry of the Interior and employees of the Northwestern Transport Prosecutor Office.

The investigators have enough evidence so the criminal case has been sent to court to be tried on the merits.

