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## **In Saint Petersburg, probe launched against criminal community that defrauded elderly citizens**



The Saint Petersburg Office of the Investigative Committee has opened a criminal investigation into a crime under Parts 1 and 2 of Article 210 of the RF Penal Code (organization of a criminal community and membership in it), Part 4 of Article 159 (fraud).

The files of the case say that in the period between January and April 2016, in saint Petersburg Igor Karachev, 26 organized a criminal community whose members had some personal data of elderly people and called them introducing themselves as medical specialists. Abusing their trust they convinced the victims that they had some health issues and needed to buy medicines that were no more than biological additives, but the suspects claimed them to be real medicines.

The culprits then delivered the drugs to the citizens and got from them their savings.

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By now the investigators have revealed 5 crimes during which the culprits stole about 900,000 rubles.

As a result of investigative and search operations the investigators together with officials of the Saint Petersburg and Leningrad Region Directorate of the Interior Ministry have detained 10 members of the criminal community, who have confessed to the crime under the weight of the evidence. They are going to be charged and arrested soon.

During searches the investigators have confiscated 2 million rubles, phones from which the culprits called their victims, off-the-book and other documents relevant for the investigation.

Necessary measures are being taken to check if the suspects have been involved in a number of similar crimes.

The investigation is ongoing.

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