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## **In St. Petersburg, deputy of Legislative Assembly charged with stealing money on very large scale**



The second department of the Head Office of the Investigative Committee based in the city of Saint Petersburg has charged deputy of the Legislative Assembly of the 5<sup>th</sup> convocation Svetlana Nesterova with crimes under Part 3 of Article 33, Part 4 of Article 159 of the RF Penal Code (organization of deceitful stealing by a group of people in conspiracy using their positions and on a very large scale).

According to investigators, in the period of time between June 2013 and December 2014, Svetlana Nesterova organized stealing of funds allocated by the Saint Petersburg budget to finance social programs for elderly citizens and people with disabilities. To do that, she involved two of her assistants Vera Shishkina and Tatyana Kitova and an acquaintance of hers - director of a number of companies Svetlana Gasanova. Acting on Nesterova's instructions Shishkina, Kitova and Gasanova filed with the Saint Petersburg committed for social policy which was the general administrator of the subsidies, false information on the amount and cost of the services provided under those social programs. This way, they stole over 4.5 million rubles.

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Shishkina, Kitova and Gasanova cut cooperation deals so the criminal cases against them were tried by a court in special order. The court found Kitova and Shishkina guilty, while Gasanova's case is still being tried. In this case the tactics of investigators directed on establishing the guilt of Nesterova's accomplices in the first place was caused by soecial difficulty to prove that the deputy was the organizer of the crime.

Nesterova was apprehended on 21 June after her residence was searched. At the moment investigative operations are underway to find out all details of the crime, while the accused is expecting restraint. The investigation is continued.

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