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## **Case against head of Rostov Region Office of Transport Ministry referred to court**

The seventh department of the Investigative Committee's Head Office based in the city of Rostov-on-Don has finished the investigation against the head of the Rostov Region Office of the Transport Ministry Sergei Sokolov charged with three crimes under Part 1 of Article 286 of the RF Penal Code (abused of power) and a chief specialist of the Rostov Region Office's department Aleksandr Tkachenko charged with complicity in abuse of office (part 5 of Article 33, Part 1 of Article 286 of the RF Penal Code).

According to investigators, from April to June 2015, Sokolov with the complicity of Tkachenko, having full and reliable information on the procedure and the progress of bidding for a contract on passenger transportation, out of mercenary and other personal interest arranged for the bidders' documents to have been changed which made it possible for them to get higher points and win three lots. The winning bidders, however, used older vehicles for passenger transportation in comparison with other bidders.

By illegally providing upper hand in the bidding Sokolov caused considerable violation of legally protected rights and interests of the society when they choose a carrier who can provide safe and high-quality transport services on commuter and interurban transport services within Rostov Region and of organizations – other bidders' rights for honest competition and the opportunity to get profit.

The investigators have enough evidence so the criminal case with the signed indictment has been referred to court.

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