In Karelia, ex-deputy minister for construction found guilty of grand bribery

A court has recognized the evidence collected by the Karelia Office of the Investigative Committee sufficient to convict former deputy minister for construction, housing utilities and power of Karelia Andrei Lychenkov as well as deputy head of the capital construction office of the Capital Construction Department under the Karelia Ministry for Construction Andrei Frolov. They were found guilty of taking a bribe by an official committed by a group of people in conspiracy with extortion and on a large scale under Part 5, items "a", "b" and "c" of Article 290 of the RF Penal Code.

The court and investigators have revealed that in November 2012, the Lakhdenpokhya Town Administration and Pitkyaranta Town Administration under a program of resettling people from unsafe houses finalized municipal contracts with one company to build a 17-flat house and a 19-flat house in the towns of Lakhdenpokhya and Pitkyaranta.

The capital construction office of the Capital Construction Department under the Karelia Ministry for Construction was charged with the oversight of construction operations where the future deputy minister worked as the head at the time. He decided to use his position to get bribes for assisting in accepting the work done and for general patronage and involved the second accused as his accomplice.

After that, both of them demanded from a representative of the construction company a bribe of office equipment and more than 770 thousand rubles for signing the acceptance certificates.

The court has sentenced Lychenkov to 11 years and Frolov to 10 years and 6 months to be served in a maximum-security penal colony and fined each one of them for 46 million rubles.

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