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## **Director of Communications Ministry's department suspected of abuse of office in calculating wages of CEO of Russian Post**



The Major Cases Directorate of the Investigative Committee has initiated criminal proceedings against director of organization development of the Russian Ministry for Communications and Media Irina Lapteva suspected of abuse of office under Part 1 of Article 286 of the Penal Code (abuse of office).

In accordance with the Russian laws determining the amount of wages and yearly bonus for directors of federal state unitary enterprises falls within the competence of executive authorities to which the said enterprises report.

This way, investigators have established that in March 2014, senior officials of the Communications Ministry ordered Lapteva to make a work contract with Dmitry Strashnov, the CEO of the Russian Post, an institution within the Ministry's jurisdiction. The investigators believe that Lapteva acted in the interests of Strashnov when she abused her authority and calculated his wage which was 8 times higher than the usual wage of the Russian Post CEO.

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In April 2015, Lapteva calculated him a deliberately overestimated bonus of 95.4 million rubles for 2014 instead of 13.4 million rubles which should have been calculated and approved.

As a result, Strashnov received in 2014-2015 sum wages of at least 46 million rubles and a 2014 bonus in 2015 of at least 82 million rubles, all at the expense of the Russian Post.

At present a number of investigative operations are underway to find out all the circumstances surrounding the crime. The investigators are going to give a procedural assessment to the actions of all individuals that led to the damage done to the Russian Post.

Acting Head of Media Relations S.L. Petrenko

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