
In Maritime Territory, director of Tinro-Center and his deputy suspected of abuse of office put under restraint



The sixth office of the Investigative Committee's Directorate (based in the city of Khabarovsk) has initiated criminal proceedings against director of TINRO-Center, a federal state-funded scientific institution, Lev Bocharov and his first deputy Yuri Blinov suspected of abuse of power under part 1 of Article 286 of the RF Penal Code.

According to investigators, in July 2015, based on a permit issued by the Maritime Territory Office of the Federal Fishing Agency on catching 2 killer whales for research purposes, workers of TINRO-Center with partial material assistance of one of Center's employees, also involved in commercial activity, caught 2 killer whales and delivered them into a site for adaptation of marine mammals.

Later, Blinov had the workers of the facility including the said employee of the Center invited electronic bidding for a service contract on catching and transporting the 2 killer whales and 5 white whales, though the two killer whales had already been delivered to the adaptation site. The bidding was won by a company founded by the same employee of the Center involved in catching and transporting the killer whales and in making necessary documents.

Bocharov aware that the facility had already implemented the permit, caught the killer whales and transported them to the adaptation site, signed the contract and arrange that 13 million rubles was transferred to the company. As a result, TINRO-Center suffered a considerable damage.

By now both Bocharov and Blinov have been detained. Bocharov has been put under house arrest, while Blinov has been remanded in custody pending trial.

Investigative operations are underway to find out all the circumstances surrounding the crime. The investigation is ongoing.

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