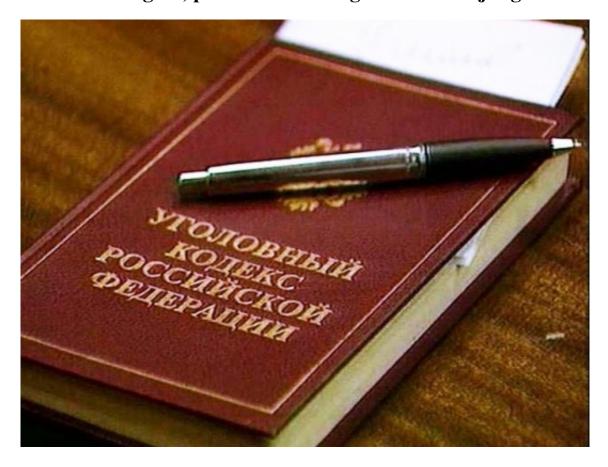
## In Saratov Region, probe launched against retired judge



The Chairman of the Investigative Committee has initiated criminal proceedings against retired judge of the Saratov Region Court suspected of attempted fraud on a very large scale by a person using their position under Part 3 of Article 30, Part 4 of Article 159 of the RF Criminal Code.

According to investigators, the judge of the Saratov Region Court got from an acquaintance of his who was acting as part of an operation, 150 thousand rubles and fake 5 million rubles as first part of an illegal reward under a prior agreement. The money was to pay for the cancelling a guilty sentence on a person sentenced by court of first instance to 8 years in maximum-security prison for a fraud and for returning the case for reconsideration and acquittal. The judge was not part of the Saratov Region appeal court which was considering the case and so could not affect the sentence in any way.

The suspect was unable to use the money as was held by agents of the Saratov Region Office of the Federal Security Service.

The Saratov Region Office of the Investigative Committee has been charged with the preliminary investigation.

At present, investigative operations are underway to collect and document evidence. The investigation is ongoing.

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