

## **In Yakutia, salesman arrested on charges of holding child against his will**



The Sakha (Yakutia) Office of the Investigative Committee has checked media reports about holding a little boy against his will and has initiated criminal proceedings against a 35-year-old salesman suspected of illegal deprivation of liberty not related to kidnapping committed against a minor under Part 2, item “e” of Article 127 of the RF Criminal Code.

A preliminary investigation has found out that the incident took place on 16 June 2017, about 10:30 AM. The salesman of a small shop in Kuzmin Street in the city of Yakutsk, after catching a boy stealing a chocolate bar held him for 10 minutes against his will in the basement. The man duct taped the boy’s wrists and mouth preventing the boy from leaving the shop. The salesman’s wrongdoing was stopped by some other people, so he had to release the boy.

The incident became known because of the cell video made by one of the witnesses. The young

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woman intervened and later posted the video online.

The Investigative Committee launched a check in the incident, while juvenile office of the police department identified all those involved. The boy is 7 years old and he is a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader. As for the salesman, he has no previous police records, no permanent living place or registration.

The salesman has been detained and interrogated. His testimony has been checked on site and he has been charged. He confessed to the crime and gave all the details about it. A court has ruled to place the man in custody for the period of preliminary investigation.

At present, investigative operations are underway to find out all the circumstances surrounding the crime.

20 June 2017

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