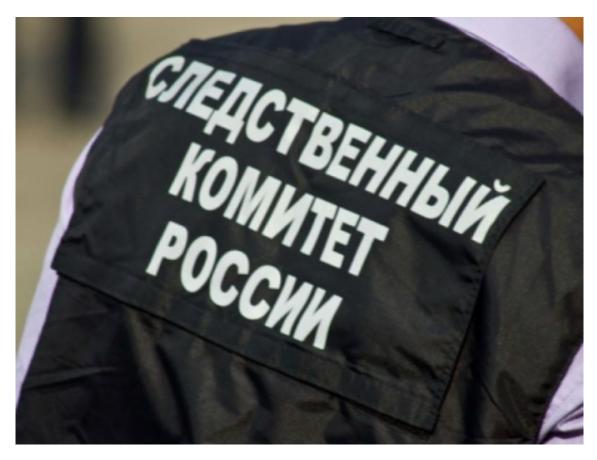
In Kursk Region, investigation ongoing into improper discharge of professional duties by authorities during organization of search for missing child



The Kursk Regional Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation continues establishing circumstances and causes that contributed to a murder of a 7-year-old boy. The child was reported missing on October 23, 2018, in Zheleznogorsk. The probe was immediately launched into an offence under Part 2 of Article 105 of the Criminal Code of Russia (murder).

Investigators of the Kursk Regional Directorate of the Investigative Committee of Russia, forensic experts of the Central Office of the Investigative Committee that arrived to the scene of the tragedy, officers of the Ministry for Internal Affairs, volunteers including those from search-and-rescue volunteer organization Liza Alert and concerned citizens were looking for the missing child during a week and made their utmost to find the boy alive.

Despite all the efforts, the body of the missing child was found on October 30, 2018 in Troyanovo rural settlement of Zheleznogorsky District. 39-year-old Vitaly Paschevsky showed the burial place. According to available information, he had lured the boy into his apartment under a false pretext to commit sexual violence against the child, followed by his murder. Then he had transported and hidden the body in a forest behind his garden plot. Paschevsky was charged with the offence he had committed; the court ruled to keep him in custody during the investigation.

During the investigation, investigators received information about possible presence of the child in Paschevky's apartment for several days prior to the murder. In relation to the above-mentioned facts, the Kursk Regional Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation launched a probe into an offence under Part 2 of Article 293 of the Criminal Code of Russia (neglect of duty). The investigation includes an assessment of comprehensiveness and timeliness of law enforcement authorities' actions and their compliance with the regulatory framework regulating the search for the child. It must be noted that, having the grounds, the actions (inaction) of these authorities will be given a criminal-legal assessment in accordance with the requirements of the legislation in force. The investigation is under supervision of the Central Office of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation.

The Investigative Committee urges citizens not to remain indifferent to reports about missing children. Any information that might seem insignificant at first might appear important for rescue of a missing child.

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