
In Nizhny Novgorod Region, member of organized group found guilty of land plot swindling worth over 73 million rubles

The evidence gathered by the Nizhny Novgorod Regional Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation was found to be sufficient by the court to find the member of the organized group guilty of the crimes under Part 4 of Article 159 (swindling--2 episodes), and Paragraph B of Part 4 of Article 174.1 (legalization of criminally acquired property) of the Criminal Code of Russia.

According to the investigation and the court, from April 2013 to October 2016, the defendant had been the member of the group organized by a 33-year-old entrepreneur, conducting activities (sale of gardening goods) in Bogorodsky District. The group also had included a 60-year-old former head of one of the community administrations, and two residents of Nizhny Novgorod Region, of 54 and 55 years old.

In order to acquire the title to undeveloped land plots in Bogorodsky District, the former head of the community administration had made false documents of title with knowingly fraudulent information about the possession of the land plots by persons who had not been aware of their intentions and then the state of registration of the ownership had been effected.

In the said period, the members of the group had misappropriated 59 state-owned land plots causing damage to the budget in the amount of over 70 million rubles.

Additionally, in 2009, the entrepreneur, the head of the community administration, and the real estate agent had appropriated the land plot with the value of over 2 million rubles. In total, 60 land plots worth over 73 million rubles had been misappropriated during the said period. The land plots had been legalized through fictitious sale-purchase agreements with proxies.

In the course of the investigation, the officers of the Investigative Committee seized all of the said misappropriated state-owned land plots.

The court considered the criminal case into the real estate agent under a special procedure provided for individuals who signed an immunity agreement pre-trial.

The court sentenced the defendant to 5 years of imprisonment, suspended.

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