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## **Seven members of organized group supplying surrogate to correctional institutions in Volgograd Region detained**



The Volgograd Regional Investigations Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation launched a probe into seven members of an organized group. They are suspected of committing an offense under Part 4 of Article 159 of the Criminal Code of Russia (swindling on a large scale committed by an organized group).

According to the investigation, this July, the regional administration of the Federal Service for Corrections and the commercial organization in Veliky Novgorod signed a public contract for the supply of more than 150 thousand liters of milk to correctional institutions in Volgograd Region. Its amount almost reached 5 million rubles. At the same time, as investigators believe, the win of this very organization in the tender procedures at the request of two residents of Volgograd was actively promoted by the head of the logistics department of the regional Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia and his deputy. It turned out that the supplier through another company, acting as an

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intermediary, purchased products in Ryazan Region at the Tyrnovo dairy plant, where a liquid was manufactured, packaged, and then sent to Volgograd instead of milk, which, according to its physical and chemical parameters, did not meet not only the requirements stipulated in the contract but also the generally accepted standards, the so-called State All-Union standards.

Everyone knew that subject to the said public contract a surrogate would be supplied instead of milk, from the management of the logistics department of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia to the director of the Ryazan dairy plant. Obviously, each of them had its own profit, and which one, in particular, would have to be clarified as part of the investigation. It was established that on the basis of documents prepared by employees of the regional body of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia, almost the entire amount of the contract was transferred to the supplier and manufacturer of the substandard products.

Investigators of the Regional Directorate of the Investigative Committee of Russia and employees of the Regional Directorate for Economic Security and Anti-Corruption Enforcement of MIA carried out searches at the places of residence and work of the suspects (in Volgograd, St. Petersburg, Veliky Novgorod, and Ryazan Region), during which more than 60 tons of counterfeit milk, notebooks with secret ledgers, and data storage devices were seized.

The products seized at the dairy plant will be sent for expert research. All perpetrators were detained and taken to Volgograd. Investigative actions are being conducted with their participation.

The probe was launched on the basis of materials submitted by police officers of the regional departments of the Federal Security Service and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, as well as the internal security service of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia in Volgograd Region.

Video link: <https://youtu.be/uJilh-1XOps>

31 October 2019

Page address: <https://en.sledcom.ru/news/item/1405688>