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## **In Belgorod Region, a probe into organization of illegal gambling sent to court**



The Belgorod Regional Investigations Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation finished investigation of a probe into 9 participants of a criminal community having organized illegal gambling under Part 1 of Article 210, Paragraphs A, B of Part 3 of Article 171.2, Paragraph B of Part 4 of Article 174.1 of the Criminal Code of Russia (organization of a criminal community of participation in it, illegal organization and conduct of gambling, legalization of funds acquired in an illegal way).

During the period of 2011-2017 over 20 participants of illegal activities organized and conducted gambling using Internet network through creation of illegal gambling establishments under the guise of stock exchange activities, receiving total criminal proceeds of at least 139 million rubles. The leader of the criminal community legalized the acquired funds through legal estates controlled by him. The criminal activities involved professional software developers, lawyers, responsible for legal

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support of criminal activities, accountants and game hall managers.

Under the probe the investigators questioned over 400 witnesses, examined and listened to over 700 records of telephone conversations and text messages, several thousands of emails sent between the participants of the illegal activities, carried out a significant number of searches and seizures and 80 forensic examinations. The criminal case amounted to 535 volumes.

Previously during the investigation, 9 of other participants of the illegal activities fully admitted their guilt, testified about circumstances of illegal activities and signed immune agreements pre-trial. Probes into them were presented separately, they were sentenced to imprisonment.

The investigation gathered enough evidence; therefore, the criminal case with the approved indictment has been sent to the court to be tried on the merits.

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