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## **In St. Petersburg, a criminal investigation is conducted on building a criminal organization to organize illegal migration**



The Main Investigative Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation for St. Petersburg is investigating a criminal case launched on the offense of a crime prescribed in paragraph "a" Part 2, Article 322.1 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (organization of illegal migration). During the investigation, suspects and accessories were identified, and a criminal case was launched on the offense of a crime prescribed in Parts 1, 2, Article 210 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (building a criminal community).

According to the investigation, one of the suspects, being a member of the municipal council of an Intracity Municipality of St. Petersburg, arranged a criminal community for issuing of false migration documents related to migration registration of foreign citizens. As part of the criminal community, the accessories ensured the registration of at least 100 thousand foreign citizens at the place of stay in non-residential premises without their intention to actually live in these premises. It became possible for them as they used electronic transmission of data on registration and removal from migration registration, as well as the direct submission of documents to the relevant services. The hosts were a number of city organizations that allegedly provide temporary accommodation services for citizens.

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As a result of investigative actions and investigative-search activities, Investigators, together with Officers of the Regional Directorate of the FSB and with the power support of the Russian Guard, detained 3 men and 3 women on suspicion of committing this crime. The organizer of the criminal community was detained on the territory of Ryazan Oblast, while trying to escape. Currently, a measure of restraint for the suspects and charges are being decided.

Within the criminal investigation, the investigative-operational group conducted about 30 searches at the places of residence and work of the suspects, as well as other involved individuals. Currently, the investigation found and seized: traumatic weapons, computer equipment, seals of organizations, various documentation. A set of measures is being taken to clarify all the circumstances of the crime and to identify all the participants.

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