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## **Investigation of case against former head of Federal Migration Service regional department accused of exceeding official powers and bribery completed in Chelyabinsk region**

The investigative bodies of the Russian Investigative Committee for the Chelyabinsk region have finished investigating the criminal case against former head of Federal Migration Service regional department Artur Damert, charged with the crimes under part 1 of article 286 (exceeding official powers), part 1 of article 290 (bribe-taking), part 6 of article 290 (bribe-taking on especially large scale).

According to the investigation, acting out of mercenary and other personal interest, Damert demanded from the CEO of one of construction companies to perform design and construction works over main bearing constructions in 2 cottages owned by his close relatives in exchange for dealing with extension of registration term for foreign staff of the company and work permit for a newly arrived group of foreign specialists. In the period from June 2008 to September 2009, the company on its own account performed design and construction works over main bearing constructions in 2 cottages on the land owned by Artur Damert's relatives, spending more than 8 million rubles. In addition, in 2009, Damert took a bribe of 3 thousand rubles for speeding up the issuance of international passports for 5 local residents. In the period from 2007 to 2010, Damert, knowing that a Georgian national had outstanding and uncleared conviction for a serious crime in Russia, made knowingly unlawful decision to issue him by way of exception a part-time residence permit in the Russian Federation, and made knowingly unlawful decisions to issue work permits for 36 foreign nationals and stateless persons without any lawful grounds.

The investigators have collected enough evidence and the case is forwarded for the bill of particulars to be approved and then to be sent in the court to be considered on merits.

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