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## **Minister of Sports and Tourism of Kamchatka was arrested as a suspect of fraud on a large scale**

Investigating authorities of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation in the Kamchatka Territory continue criminal investigation against the Minister of Sports and Tourism in the Kamchatka region and one of the entrepreneurs. They are suspected of committing crimes under part 4 of the article 159 of the RF Criminal Code (fraud committed by a group of persons by prior agreement, on a large scale).

According to investigators, in late July - early August 2011 the Minister of Sports and Tourism in the Kamchatka region, knowing about budget 2011 allocations for the purchase of athletic shoes, sportswear and sports equipment for the teams of young hockey players, suggested one of the private entrepreneurs to participate in the auction for the supply of sports goods. The entrepreneur, wanting to encash sports equipment, which he had in store and which was not in demand, accepted an offer of the official and submitted a list of goods to make up the auction documentation. At the same time, the suspects took steps to keep other persons out of the auction and ensure that the entrepreneur would win the auction. As a result, goods of the poor quality at overestimated the cost were supplied under the state contract, including those having no bearing to hockey inventory. The regional budget suffered damages of more than 6.9 million rubles.

Upon a petition of the investigator the court elected a pre-trial restraining measure of detainment in custody; the question of bringing charges is under consideration. The investigation operations are being carried out to establish all the circumstances of the incident. The criminal investigation continues.

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