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## **Progress of investigation of a criminal case against officials of the Federal Service for Supervision of Nature Resources in the Volga Federal District**



The Volga Federal District Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee continues investigating a criminal case initiated over bribery-taking by heads of the Volga Federal District Department of Federal Service for Supervision of Nature Resources over signs of a crime under part 6 of article 290 of the RF Criminal Code (bribe-taking by an official in an organized group on an especially large scale).

According to investigators, senior officials of the Department many times received illegal fees through an intermediary for positive conclusion of state ecological expert examinations of solid domestic waste landfills, and for taking measures to annul the license issued to the competing organization. The total sum of bribes amounts to over 5 million rubles.

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During the investigation searches were carried out in the Department, buildings of commercial organizations and apartments of individuals suspected of complicity to the serious corruption offence. During the searches documents and valuables confirming complicity of officials in bribery were seized.

On the petition from the investigators Head of the Volga Federal District Department of Federal Service for Supervision of Nature Resources, Igor Lola was put into custody as a pre-trial restraining measure. His Deputy Pavel Atrokhin has already been charged.

In addition, as part of investigation, CEO of OOO Enterprise of Housing and Communal Facilities (LLC) located in Kazan, Aduard Antonov, was arrested. He is suspected of a crime under part 5 of article 291 of the RF Criminal Code (bribe-giving to a functionary on especially large scale).

The court today is considering a petition to put into custody an intermediary in bribe-taking – Director of the Nizhny Novgorod branch of federal budget institution Federal Center for Analysis and Assessment of Technogenic Effect, Alexey Shpanagel.

In addition, the investigators are establishing other persons involved in giving and taking bribes. Investigation is to be continued.

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