
In Moscow criminal proceedings launched against an investigator and a lawyer suspected of fraud



Moscow investigating bodies of the Russia's Investigative Committee have started a criminal case against senior investigator of investigations directorate of Northern Administrative District of Moscow Main Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee, who has special rank of major of justice, Andrey Novikov and lawyer of board of lawyers of Moscow juridical center AK Intellekt Leonid Yaskin. They are suspected of a crime under part 3 of article 30 and part 4 of article 159 of the RF Criminal Code (attempted swindling).

According to investigators, Novikov was investigating a criminal case against a Moscow resident suspected of a crime under part 3 of article 285 of the RF Criminal Code (abuse of official powers). No later than 30 November 2012, Novikov decided to use the situation for personal enrichment by fraud and using his official position. For this the investigator entered a criminal conspiracy with the lawyer Yaskin, who during many telephone conversations and personal meetings assured his client that Novikov had had wide connections and enjoyed authority among court employees, using which he could receive a punishment not connected with prison term. The lawyer said that this can be achieved by the only means of a bribe of 150 US dollars, which then would be given to judges. On 19 December 2012, Yaskin received the sum from the victim in a café and at once informed Novikov, after which he was detained by law enforcement agents.

The suspects are detained and investigators are deciding on the pretrial restraining measure. Investigation is to be continued.

Senior officials of the Investigative Committee have always efficiently and severely responded to each fact of violation of law, including corruption inside the agency, independent of ranks, positions and previous merits. This is the principled position of the Investigative Committee, which gives us not only the right granted by law, but moral right to respond as severely to any facts of corruption among state officials and employees of other law enforcement agencies.

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