Criminal proceedings launched against prosecutors suspected of swindling



First Vice-Chairman of the Russia's Investigative Committee has launched a criminal investigation against Igor Surkov, a prosecutor of Tolyatti prosecutor's office on supervising the observance of laws in correctional facilities, Anatoly Kozlov, a prosecutor of Leningrad prosecutor's office on supervising the observance of laws in correctional facilities and other unknown persons over signs of a crime under part 4 of article 159 of the RF Criminal Code (swindling).

Investigators believe that the suspects misled an advisor of CEO of ZAO Nevsky Technological Plant (CJSC) promising him general patronage and stole from the Plant over 20 million rubles, 30% of ordinary shares and a residential house located in Viborgsky district, Leningrad Region worth no less than 20 million rubles.

On 9 April during investigating and search operations carried out by the Investigative Committee together with the Prosecutor General's Office and 6th Service of Inner Security Office of the Federal Security Service Igor Surkov was caught red-handed in Tolyatti while recieveng 5 million rubles from the advisor of CEO of ZAO Nevsky Technological Plant.

Kozlov and Surkov were transported to Moscow and detained according to procedural rules. Flats and offices of the suspects and witnesses were searched. Investigators found large sums of money, including in foreign currency, firearms, jewelries and documents proving involvement of the suspects in the crime. At present the witnesses are being questioned and other investigation operations are underway to collect and consolidate the evidence. It is being decided whether to place Kozlov and Surkov into custody as a pretrial restraining measure.

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