
Searches conducted within criminal case of embezzlement of budget funds allocated for development of Skolkovo science city

The Main Investigation Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation is continuing to investigate the criminal case filed against the former Director of the Department of Finance of the "Skolkovo" Fund Kirill Lugovtsev, Director General of the "Skolkovo" Customs and Finance Company Vladimir Khokhlov and others suspected of embezzling money allocated from the budget of the Russian Federation for the Fund (Part 4 of Article 160 of the Criminal Code).

As previously reported, in 2011, the Fund established an affiliated Skolkovo Customs and Finance Company tasked to register custom cargoes to develop the science city. Lugovtsev was in charge of controlling financial activity of the company. The budget funds were spent to rent the building to house the Skolkovo Customs and Finance Company from OOO Nika owned by Lugovtsev's parents. The lease contract was drawn so that all the money was paid for three years in advance and without the right to return in case of contract termination. Besides, Khokhlov and Lugovtsev decided to make capital repairs in the rented building. Thus, investigators believe that due to the actions of Khokhlov, Lugovtsev and others 23,801,100 rubles allocated from the budget to develop Skolkovo Science city were embezzled. Moreover, investigators have found that over two years the Skolkovo Customs and Finance Company, which staff was about 10 people with the salary from 300 to 600 thousand rubles a month, made only one customs transaction.

As part of the investigation, today searches have been carried out at the central office of the "Skolkovo" Fund on Krasnopresnenskaya Quay in Moscow.

During the investigating actions, which were carried out after the familiarization of the President of the "Skolkovo" Fund Viktor Vekselberg with the search warrant, a significant amount of legal, financial, accounting and other documents have been seized. They will be used in the process of proof.

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