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## **In Nizhny Novgorod region, Head of Budget Center accused of mediation in bribery face trial**



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. On the petition from the investigators Head of the Volga Federal District Department of Federal Service for Supervision of Nature Resources, Igor Lola and his Deputy Pavel Atrokhin were put into custody as a pre-trial

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restraining measure.

The investigators found that Director of the Federal State Institution "Federal Centre for analysis and Evaluation of Man-made Impact» for the Nizhny Novgorod region Alexei Shpanagel acted as an intermediary in the transfer of bribes. He was charged with committing an offense under Part 4 of Art. 291.1 of the Criminal Code (mediation in bribery committed on a large scale).

Being found to have committed crimes Shpanagel requested for a pre-trial agreement on cooperation and pledged to give evidence about the illegal actions of the Management of RPN Department. In connection with the satisfaction of the petition, the criminal case against Shpanagel was separated, the indictment on it was approved, and the case was sent for trial on the merits.

Investigation of the main criminal case against Lola and Atrokhin continues.

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