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## **In St. Petersburg members of criminal group found guilty of fraud worth 174 million rubles allocated to remove dumps from Primorsky district**



A court has recognized the evidence gathered by the Northwestern Federal District Investigations Directorate sufficient to convict Dmitry Shilov, Vasily Stepushkin, Viktor Bugriy, Vadim Moiseyev, Sergey Karsten and Tatyana Koltsova. Depending on the roles, they were found guilty of a crime under part 4 of article 159 of the RF Penal Code (fraud committed by and organized group either on an especially massive scale or entailing stripping a citizen of the right on residence).

The court and investigators have found that in the period between December 2011 and December 2012 the organized criminal group of no fewer than 9 accomplices, including officials of Primorsky district administration of Saint-Petersburg – first deputy head of administration Vadim Moiseyev and deputy head of administration Vasily Stepushkin, stole budgetary funds allocated for removing unauthorized dumps in the said city district, by deceiving and abusing the trust of officials of Primorsky district Office of Saint-Petersburg Finance Committee. Those actions caused the city budget a loss of more than 174 million rubles. The documents, confirming execution of the state contract concluded with OOO Temp, were partly forged by the accomplices as the work worth the said sum had not been executed.

During the probe the investigators have done a huge amount of work: they have questioned over 100

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witnesses, carried out over 50 searches and seizures, confiscated, examined and filed into the case a lot of material evidence and documents. Thanks to efficient investigating and search operations carried out together with regional offices of the Federal Security Service and Interior Ministry and the evidence, 8 of the accomplices pleaded guilty and reimbursed 10 million rubles during the investigation.

The court sentenced them to: Moiseyev – 4 years to be served in a minimum-security penal colony, Stepushkin – 3 years and 6 months to be served in a minimum-security penal colony. Koltsova, Shilov, Bugria and Karsten got suspended sentences.

Earlier the court had given deputy of the municipal entity District Morskoy Vadim Pichulin a suspended sentence of 4 years in prison.

A criminal case against Vladimir Razulenko, who concluded a pretrial cooperation deal has been severed in a separate law suit and sent to court to be tried on the merits. Investigation against other accomplices continues. Measures are being taken to find the ninth accomplice, who escaped. Other officials, including those of executive and legislation authorities are being checked on involvement in the crimes.

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