
Federal Tax Service and Investigative Committee hold joint meeting



A joint meeting of the Federal Tax Service and Russia's Investigative Committee chaired by Head of the FTS Mikhail Mishustin and First Vice-Chairman of the Investigative Committee Vasily Piskaryov has taken place today in the Federal Tax Service.

The meeting was attended by deputy heads of the FTS, vice-chairmen of the Investigative Committee, heads of divisions of central offices of the Tax Service and Investigative Committee heads of offices of the FTS in the subjects of the Russian Federation, heads of interregional inspectorates of the FTS for the largest tax payers, heads and deputy heads of the main investigations directorates and investigations directorates of the Investigative Committee for some subjects of the Russian Federation and specialized investigations directorates and departments equated to them.

In his welcoming speech Mr. Mishustin noted: "Over the past year we have achieved some serious

results thanks to joint decisions and well-coordinated operations of the two agencies. Under article 44 of the RF Criminal Procedure Code, 6.7 billion rubles were returned to the budget in 2013 in the cases against tax payers abusing tax laws. Over four months of 2014 the tax bodies have already filed actions worth over 2.6 billion rubles, which is almost four times the level of 2013”.

Mr. Piskaryov said: “1,655 criminal cases were opened based on the reports filed in 2013. Over 2 billion rubles was compensated in the cases sent to court. In addition, over 2 million rubles was returned to the budget during pre-investigating checks and investigations of the cases which were closed later”. He focused on necessity to improve legislation in the field of fighting tax crimes. As legislative measures to prevent illegal withdrawal of funds Mr. Piskaryov offered to put into the laws on taxes and duties, and insurance premiums a direct ban against abuse of civil rights in those fields; stating in the articles of the Penal Code an open list of criminally liable means of evading taxes; introduction of criminal liability for legal entities, without which it is impossible to repatriate capital by criminal ways in Russia and withdrawn abroad.

At the joint meeting the parties discussed urgent issues of interagency cooperation, including coordination of joint efforts of tax, investigating and law enforcement bodies, improvement of current laws, finding joint approaches to resolve problems of law enforcement practice in countering tax crimes.

The parties paid special attention to compensation of damage caused to the budget system of Russia and developing measures ensuring unavoidability of punishment for tax offences. According to the participants of the meeting, the work in this field should be open and its results should be publicized widely by media.

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