
In Novgorod region second defendant in criminal case of embezzlement of road construction funds convicted



The court recognized evidence collected by the Novgorod Region investigating authorities of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation sufficient for a conviction against the former director of the Regional State Unitary Enterprise "Veche" Oleg Orlov. He was found guilty of committing two crimes under part 4 of Article 159 of the RF Criminal Code (large-scale fraud committed by an organized group).

According to investigators, in 2012, first deputy head of the Novgorod Region Administration Arnold Shalmuyev created an organized criminal group for the systematic large-scale embezzlement of budgetary funds allocated for the maintenance and repair of roads in the region. That group comprised the head of a public institution "Novgorodavtodor" Nikolay Zakaldayev, his deputy Georgy Vishnyakov and expert Vyacheslav Samoylov, the director of the regional state unitary enterprise "Veche" Oleg Orlov, his deputy Alexander Belov and several local entrepreneurs - Konstantin Bekchev, Alexey Tutykin, Nato Natanov. According to the Shalmuyev's plan, the controlled organization – the regional state unitary enterprise "Veche" won the auction for the 2nd half of 2012 for a conclusion of the state contract for maintenance of regional inter-municipal roads in most parts of the Novgorod Region. The initial maximum contract price was almost 395 million rubles. According to the plan, some part of the above funds, no less than 50 million, was aimed to get to their "pockets". To implement the criminal plan, Oleg Orlov and Alexander Belov were appointed the director of the regional state unitary enterprise "Veche" and his deputy. In addition, in May 2012, members of the group bought the company "Magistral" OOO by means of which it was supposed to carry out the theft of funds.

In violation of the plans, in June 2012, another organization that had offered the lowest price of the contract won the open on-line auction. CEO of the winning company was threatened with property damage and dissemination of information defaming his reputation. As a result, realizing the reality

of threats from members of the group occupying high positions, the entrepreneur was forced to withdraw from the contract, and it was concluded with "Veche". After that, based on fictitious primary accounting documents, 22 million rubles was transferred to the account of the "Magistral" OOO.

Oleg Orlov pleaded guilty and entered a pre-trial cooperation agreement, under which he gave investigators detailed testimony on the circumstances of the crime. In this regard, the criminal proceedings against him had been separated.

The court sentenced Orlov to 2 years and 10 months imprisonment in a general regime penal colony and a fine of 200 thousand rubles. In addition, he disqualified for 2 years to hold public office.

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