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## Investigators looking into changed restraint of Alexander Solodkin



The Novosibirsk Region Court, despite the objections of a state prosecutor, has changed Alexander N. Solodkin's restraint from custody to house arrest. The man is charged with crimes under part 3 of article 210, part 3 of article 30, paragraphs "f", "g" and "h" of part 2 of article 105, paragraphs "a" and "b" of part 3 of article 163, part 3 of article 159, part 4 of article 160 of the RF Penal Code (organization and membership in a criminal community using official position, murder, extortion, fraud, misappropriation or embezzlement).

In view of the fact that the restraint was altered based on a medical report stating that Solodkin is seriously ill, preventing him from being held in custody, the Siberian Federal District Investigations Directorate was tasked to check the adequacy of this decision. At this point it is obvious that the conclusions of the medical commission of the State Novosibirsk Region Clinic run counter to the description of Solodkin's health at the moment of examination performed by the same commission. To check the impartiality of the commission's conclusions and stop medical reports from being destroyed, the investigators have searched the hospitals involved in the investigation and detention center No 1 in Novosibirsk and confiscated electronic data carriers and documents containing any

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information on Solodkin's health.

The investigators are going to run another medical forensic analysis. In addition, they are planning to question employees of the Novosibirsk Region Main Office of the Federal Penitentiary Service and medical personnel involved in the examination and some other persons who may have information regarding Solodkin's release from custody.

Besides that, the investigators are going to check the information they have got from operations services claiming that people from Solodkin's circle, including wanted members of Trunov's gang, had used their connections in the Novosibirsk Region law enforcement and organized Solodkin's release by forging the medical report and arranging illegal diagnosis of a disease preventing him from being held in custody.

The criminal case against A.N. Solodkin, A.A. Solodkin and A.V. Andreyev has been reviewed by the Novosibirsk Region Court since 26 June 2012. They are charged with membership in Trunov's gang headed by Alexander Trunov which was active between 1992 and 2009 in the Novosibirsk Region. The crimes the Trunov father and son are accused of remained unsolved for many years. This was due to the fact that they enjoyed huge influence in the city of Novosibirsk derived from their positions – the older Solodkin was the sports advisor for the Governor of the Novosibirsk Region while the junior served as Deputy Mayor of Novosibirsk. The gang was the largest in the region with its members having big authority in criminal circles.

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