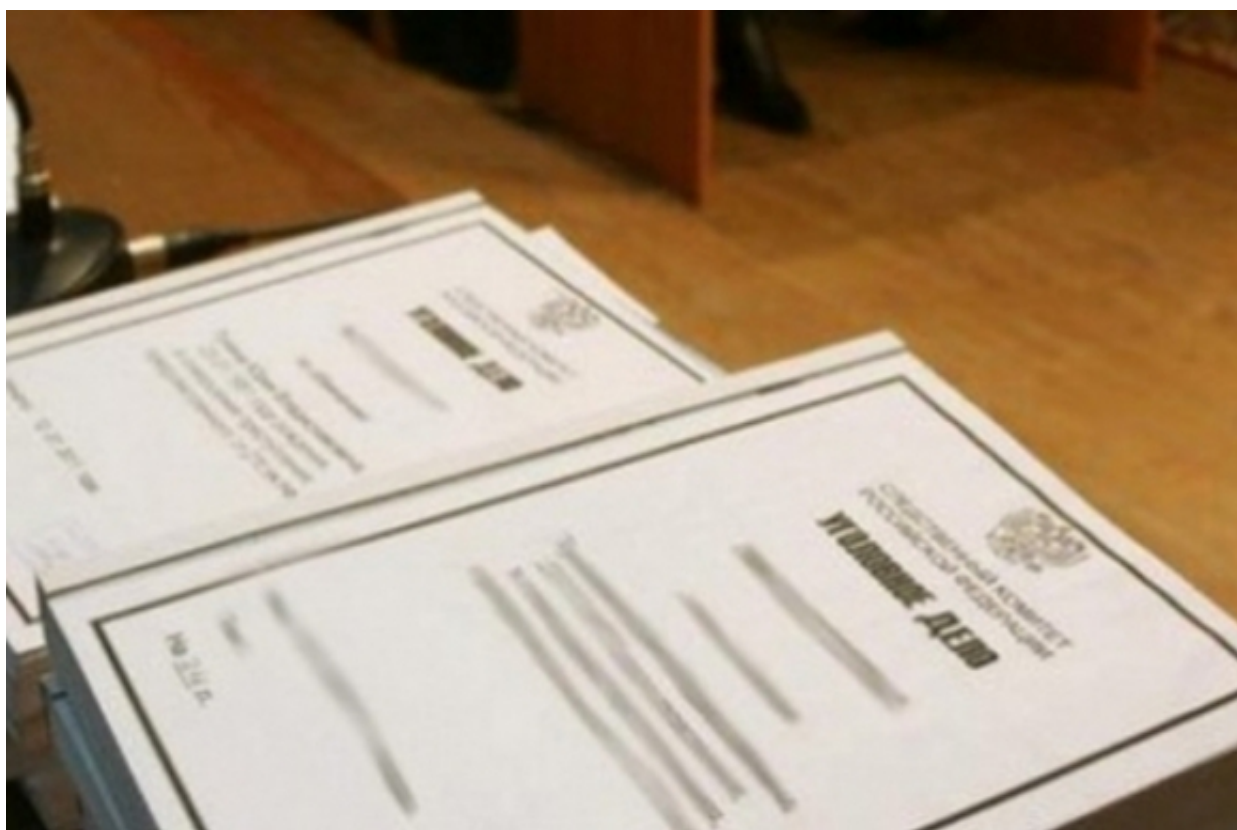


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## **On order of Investigative Committee chairman exhaustive measures to be taken in Novosibirsk Region to eliminate all reasons and conditions contributing to crimes committed against minors**



The Novosibirsk Region investigating bodies of the Russia's Investigative Committee continue investigating a criminal case against a group of individuals who conspired to rape and sexually abuse an underage girl and stole her belongings.

During the investigation, 4 local residents aged between 14 and 19 have been charged and remanded in custody. Investigators collected evidence that the said young men were involved in the said crimes, which is also confirmed by the data received from confrontations of witnesses, questionings of witnesses, searches of residences of the accused. Inquiries relevant for the investigation are underway. Results of some of them have already been received and joined to the case.

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In addition, the regional investigations directorate has organized a check into the information spread in the Internet about attempts of certain individuals to affect the impartiality of the investigation, witnesses, the victim and accused. In line with the Federal Law of the Russian Federation “On the state protection of victims, witnesses and other participants of criminal proceedings” for the purpose of taking necessary safety measures to protect life and health of the victim and measures of social support as she is participating in the criminal proceeding, the girl is now under protection of the state.

Requests to eliminate reasons and conditions that contributed to the crimes have been filed with competent supervising bodies. Some of them have been reviewed and measures have been taken to eliminate the violations.

The investigators continue carrying out investigative operation in order to consolidate the evidence and to press final charges against all defendants.

Due to the fact that the crime resonated in wider public, the investigation has been taken under control by the Central Office of the Russia’s Investigative Committee.

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