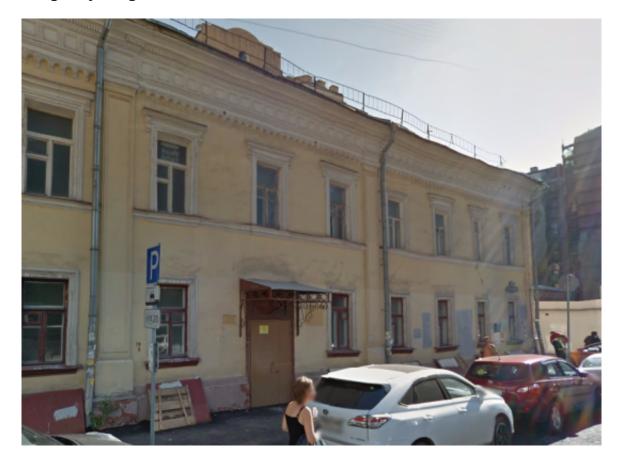
Criminal investigation opened against official of Moscow City Property Department



Moscow Main Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee has launched a criminal investigation against head of one of the offices of Auction Preparation Directorate of the Moscow City Property Department suspected of a crime under part 3 of article 30, part 6 of article 290 (attempted bribery) and against an acquaintance of his suspected of a crime under part 3 of article 30, part 4 of article 291.1 (attempted mediation in bribery).

According to investigators, in March 2015, the suspect who by virtue of his position had information on an auction for a lease contract on the object of culture heritage located in Nastasyinsky pereulok in Moscow offered a representative of a company, a possible bidder, to give him a cash bribe of 20 million rubles. For that he promised to assist in creating more favorable conditions for the company to have advantage in the future contract bidding and consequently to sign the lease contract on preferential terms. The official involved an acquaintance of his as a middle-man. The money had to

have been put in a bank cell and be retrieved only in case the company won the bidding. A representative of the company put the money in a bank cell in presence of the intermediary. After that law-enforcement officials first detained the intermediary and then the official of the Moscow City Property Department.

At present investigative and search operations are underway to find out all the circumstances of the crime. The investigation is ongoing.

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