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## **Former member of Federation Council Alexander Sabadash and his accomplices jailed for attempted fraud**



A court has recognized the evidence gathered by the Main Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee sufficient to convict Alexander Sabadash, former member of the Federation Council from the Nenets Autonomous Area and an actual owner of OAO Vyborg Cellulose, and his four accomplices Alexey Nabokin, Yelena Bevza, Oleg Khrantsov, Alexey Maslov. They were found guilty of a crime under part 3 of article 30, part 4 of article 159 of the RF Penal Code (attempted fraud committed by an organized group on a very large scale).

The court and investigators have revealed that in 2010, Sabadash set up an organized criminal group to steal money from the RF budget by illegal compensation of VAT. The members of the group filed forged documents with Moscow tax inspectorate No 28 confirming the construction for OAO Vyborg Cellulose, the sole beneficiary of which was Sabadash, had been fully executed by the general contractor OOO Es-Contractstroy and subcontracted firms OOO NovoStroy and OOO

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Construction Business Department-88. In accordance with the forged documents Es-Contractstroy had executed construction works worth over 12.5 billion rubles and was entitled to compensate over 1.8 billion rubles of VAT. But in fact the construction had been carried out by subcontractors and was not finished at the time. In addition, the real cost of the construction was 5.4 billion rubles. Despite their active attempts to deceive tax clerks, the members of the group were refused the compensation.

The court has found Sabadash and his four accomplices guilty of the crime and sentenced Sabadash to 6 years to be served in a maximum-security penal colony, Nabokin to 6 years, Khramtsov to 4.5 years, Bevza to 3 years and Maslov to 2 years in prison.

One more member of the criminal group escaped and is wanted.

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