
Another high-ranking official detained under investigation against head of Nizhny Novgorod administration



Nizhny Novgorod Region investigating bodies of the Russia's Investigative Committee continue investigating a criminal case opened against Nizhny Novgorod city administration head Oleg Kandrashov charged with a crime under part 2 of article 285 of the RF Penal Code (abuse of office).

On 27 May 2015, another suspect was detained – deputy head of city administration Vladimir Privalov, who investigators believe was involved in the 2014 selling of shares of OAO TEK-NN at lower price and causing damage to city budget. Charges will be pressed and restraint imposed soon.

Investigators revealed a whole chain of wrongdoings committed both by commercial structures and officials of the city administration. The investigators have found out the way the cost of OAO TEK-NN assets was understated. This way, in October 2014, CEO of OOO Mobile-Group evaluating company Vladimir Kozlov, 28 and other unidentified people filed with the city administration a

report on evaluation of TEK-NN assets cost in order to sell them in an auction. According to the report the cost of the assets was evaluated at 50 million rubles, while the book cost of TEK-NN assets at the time was over 300 million rubles. In late December 2014, following the auction the city administration signed a sale contract with a commercial organization and sold TEK-NN assets which were owned by the municipality for about 52 million rubles.

The sold company operates 40 km long heat networks, 11 heat points and 2 boiler houses supplying heat to residents of uptown.

The head of the city administration acting in the interest of the buyer failed to take measures set by the Russian laws to find out the real cost of the assets, which ended up in selling TEK-NN at a lower price.

Charges of a crime under part 1 of article 285 of the RF Penal Code have already been pressed against deputy head of economic development, investment and entrepreneurship department of the city administration while CEO of Mobile Group has been charged with a crime under part 4 of article 159 to. Both accused are remanded in custody pending trial. The head of the city administration has been questioned as a suspect.

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

A court has granted the request filed by the investigators and ruled to place Vladimir Kozlov in custody.

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