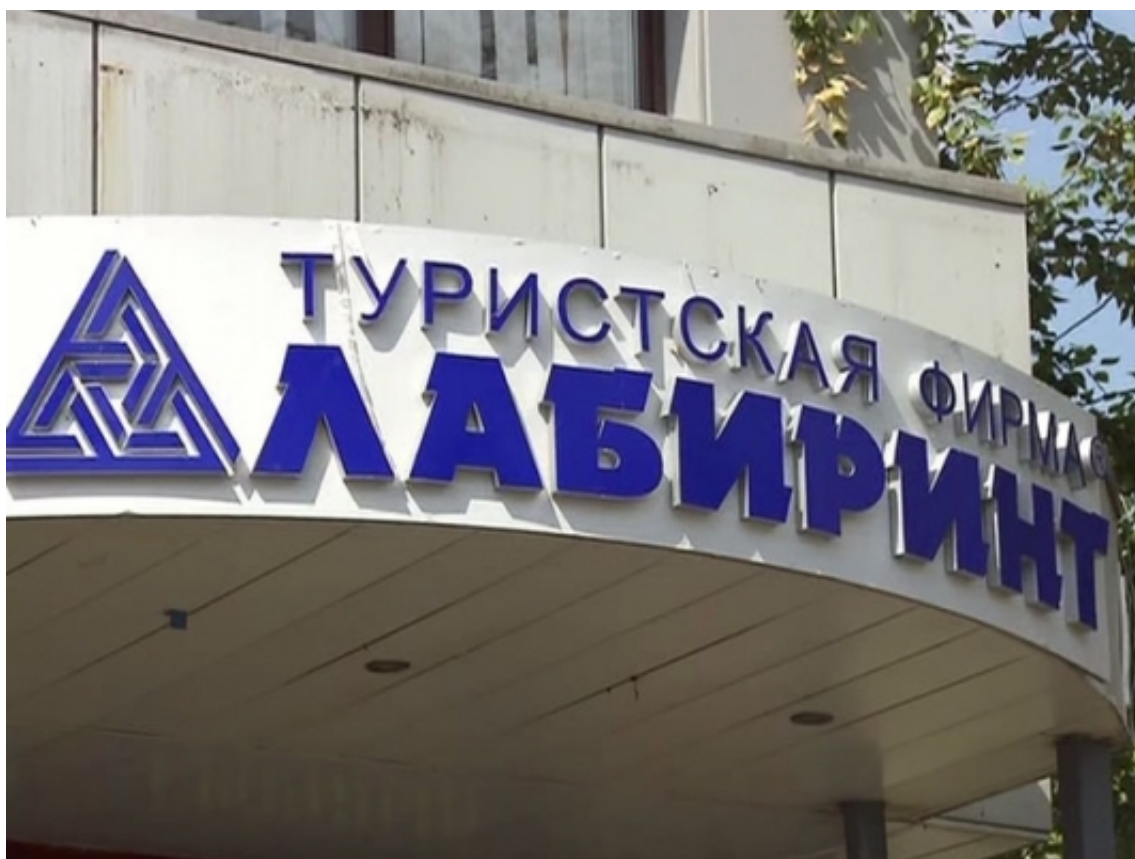

CEO of tourist agencies charged with fraud detained in Serbia



Moscow Main Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee continues investigating a criminal case against CEOs of travel agencies OOO Labyrinth, ZAO Labyrinth-T, OOO Company Labyrinth and Ideal-tour Sergey Azarskov and Mikhail Shamanov. There are warrants issued to prosecute them as the accused of a crime under part 4 of article 159 of the RF Penal Code (fraud on a very large scale) and a court has ruled to place them in custody in absentia.

It was reported earlier that in December 2013, Mikhail Shamanov and Sergey Asarskov worked out a criminal scheme of stealing money from the clients of the said travel agencies. To do that they inclined representatives of the Labyrinth group of companies providing different tourist services to sell major part of stocks and shares in the authorized capital to Azarskov, which made it possible for them to control the companies. Further on the accomplices received money from clients to purchase plane tickets, but were not going to meet their commitments and transferred the money to the account of controlled organizations and spent it on their own needs.

At present, the investigators have located one of the accused, Azarskov, who was internationally wanted like an accomplice of his Shamanov.

The investigative bodies launched extradition of Azarskov, who was detained in Serbia a few days ago.

At least 18 thousand citizens were questioned and recognized victims of the crime. The Investigation is ongoing.

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