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## **Former officials of Makhachkala Sea Trade Port and others charged with corruption crimes to stand trial in Dagestan**



The North Caucasian Federal District Main Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee has finished investigating a criminal case against former CEO of state-owned Makhachkala Sea Trade Port (hereinafter – the Port) Abusapyan Kharkharov and his former deputies Nonna Trifonova and Magomed Ertzalov, former first Deputy Minister of Land and Property Relations of Dagestan Felix Aliyev, a businessman and appraiser Ashurbek Amirov and a businessman Igor Ryzoglazov. Depending on the role of each one they are charged with crimes under part 4 of article 159 of the RF Penal Code (fraud), part 4 of article 160 (embezzlement), -art 2 of article 201 (abuse of power), paragraphs “a” and “b” of part 2 of article 174.1 (money laundering), part 3 of article 285 (abuse of power).

According to investigators, in the period between December 2006 and February 2007, Kharkharov conspired with Trifonova, Aliyev and Amirov and as a result of an illegal bidding stole three ships

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–dry cargo ships the Ali Aliyev and Dagestan and oil-bulk ore carrier the Kama, which were privatized and put on a payroll in affiliated firms. This way, Dagestan suffered loss of 218 million rubles.

Besides that, Kharkharov, Trifonova and Ertsalov, in the period between September 2006 and January 2009, stole by fraud 250 million rubles that the Port had got as a loan. Later they laundered the money by transferring it to the accounts of affiliated firms. They stole about 1 million rubles more from the Port involving Ryzoglazov. The money had been transferred for fictitious lease of ships. In addition, Kharkharov, Trifonova and Ertsalov stole over 16 million rubles got from selling facilities of the Port.

Use of power by the accused from among top-managers of the Port against its interests also caused damage over 500 million rubles.

It should be noted that in August 2007, Aliyev abused his power and bought property at overstated price causing Dagestan further loss of over 35 million rubles.

Investigative Committee investigators together with officers of the Federal Security Service took well-timed measures to break up the illegal activity of the group and compensate for the damage. They arrested the stolen property, including three ships and others.

The investigators have enough evidence, so the criminal case with the approved indictment has been sent to court to be tried on the merits.

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