
New facts revealed in fake flying qualification documents case in Saint-Petersburg



The investigating bodies of the Northwestern Transport Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee continue investigating a multi-count case against Andrey Kocharygin, the CEO of Aviation Training Center for all-service aircrafts Krylya Nevy.

According to investigators, between 2009 and 2013, Kocharygin illegally received money from citizens for making and issuing documents confirming that they had been trained in Krylya Nevy Training Center. Later the documents were used to illegally get qualification certificates of amateur pilot and commercial flights pilot, allowing a number of people to be employed in small airlines and transport passengers and cargoes endangering their lives and health.

The investigators so far have revealed that Kocharygin committed 67 crimes under paragraph “c” of part 4 of article 204 of the RF Penal Code (commercial bribery).

In addition, the investigators believe that in the period between 21 October 2008 and 7 October

2014, Kocharygin, without the permission to train commercial pilots, illegally confirmed flying qualification documents to persons who had not been duly trained and submitted their documents to the Supreme Qualification Commission of the Federal Air Transportation Agency so that they could receive the qualification of commercial pilot and standard certificates.

According to investigators, during the said period of time, the Supreme Qualification Commission illegally gave a qualification of commercial pilot and issued standard certificates to 105 people.

At the present time, following a request of the Head of the Northwestern Transport Investigations Directorate the Russian Aviation has annulled commercial pilot certificates issued to 57 people. By the order of the Head of the Russian Aviation the pilot certificates of those people were knocked off the federal state information system "Roster of issued aviation personnel certificates". The Russian Aviation is now checking other owners of commercial pilot qualifications if they meet the requirements of FAP-147. The officials involved in the illegal issuance of commercial pilot certificates have been dismissed from service by the decision of the Russian Aviation.

Earlier, following a request of the Northwestern Transport Investigations Directorate the Russian Aviation has annulled amateur pilot, commercial pilot and line pilot certificates issued to 46 people.

The investigators are going to reveal all crimes of the training center's CEO, identify all persons who illegally received forged documents and certificates and seek annulment of their flying qualifications. The investigation is ongoing.

It has to be noted that considerable, or rather overwhelming portion of all fatal air crashes happen because of violations of plane operation instructions by pilots, so greatest attention should be paid to both training of pilots and their professional development.

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