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## **Another probe launched against former senator Sergey Pugachev**



The Main Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee has opened another criminal investigation against former member of the Federation Council Sergey Pugachev and former Vice-Chairman of Executive Board of ZAO International Industrial Bank Aleksey Zlobin. Depending on the role of each one, they are suspected of crimes under part 3 of article 33, part 2 of article 201 and part 2 of article 201 of the RF Penal Code (abuse of power involving grave consequences).

Investigators believe that the International Industrial Bank was controlled by Pugachev, who influenced the decisions via his non-resident company Trust Company Limited (New Zealand, formerly called Trust Company Radonezh TRAST). According to investigators, in 2006, on the order of Pugachev the Bank issued a loan of over 700 thousand US dollars to Alexander Gladyshev for buying a flat. The flat was the pledge. Later Pugachev decided to lift the encumbrance off the flat aware that Gladyshev would not execute the credit obligation. He ordered to write a false letter, containing information that the borrower had paid off the loan. Zlobin signed the letter and it became the ground for the Office of the Federal Registration Service to lift the encumbrance off the flat. This way, as a result of Pugachev and Zlobin's actions the International Industrial Bank was

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deprived of the right to get settlement from the cost of the pledged flat if the borrower failed to execute or executed improperly the credit obligations and the bank suffered the damage of the said sum.

Soon a warrant is expected authorizing to prosecute Pugachev and Zlobin as accused of those crimes. In future, the investigators are going to arrange for Zlobin to be wanted across the world. Pugachev is already wanted. There is information that he is hiding in France, so a request has been sent to competent bodies of France to confirm his location and if he has any property there.

It was reported earlier that Pugachev was involved in causing the International Industrial Bank damage of 64 billion rubles and was the defendant in the case over deliberate bankruptcy of the International Industrial Bank and illegal actions during the procedure, and over grand stealing from the Bank.

According to investigators, in 2008-2009, the organized group which besides Pugachev included Chairman of Executive Board of the International Industrial Bank Alexander Didenko and CEO of ZAO OPK Development Dmitry Amunts stole over 28 billion rubles from the International Industrial Bank.

In July 2015, a court sentenced Didenko, who had made a deal with investigators, to 3 years of probation and in September Moscow City Court made those 3 years a prison term.

At present, the case against Dmitry Amunts charged with complicity in embezzlement (part 5 of article 33, part 4 of article 160 of the RF Penal Code) has been severed to be finished. At the present moment the accused is reading over 210 files of the case.

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