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Legal Services

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News Bulletin

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This information bulletin is a review of certain legislative developments. Information contained herein is not comprehensive and should not be treated as a legal advice. The readers should seek the advice of advocates and lawyers of our firm in case any questions arise.

News of the month:

1. BANKING

- 1.1. Instruction of the Central Bank of Russia dated July 10, 2009 № 2259-У "On Amount of Refinancing Rate of the Bank of Russia", according to which the amount of refinancing rate of the Bank of Russia was decreased from 11,5% to 11% starting from July 13, 2009.
- 1.2. Federal law dated July 18, 2009 № 181-FZ "On Application of State Securities of the Russian Federation for Increasing of the Banks' Capitalization", according to which the state was entitled to undertake measures on increasing of the banks' capitalization by exchange of federal bonds for privileged shares of such banks.

2. ANTIMONOPOLY LAW

- 2.1. Federal law dated July 17, 2009 № 160-FZ "On Making Amendments into the Code of the Russian Federation On Administrative Offences and Certain Legal Acts of the Russian Federation", according to which the administrative liability of state and municipal officials for violation of the antimonopoly legislation was tightened.
- 2.2. Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation dated July 16, 2009 № 583 "On Cases of Admissibility of Agreements between Economic Entities". Under the general rule the agreements between economic entities resulting in restriction of competition are prohibited. The new Resolution of the Government is dedicated to certain exceptions from this prohibition when agreements between sellers and buyers may be declared admissible.

3. TAX LAW

- 3.1. Letter of the Department of Tax and Customs-Tariff Policy of the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation dated July 24, 2009 № 03-02-07/1-323, dedicated to certain procedural matters of appellation of decisions on bringing to responsibility (refusal on bringing to responsibility) for tax offences.
- 3.2. Federal law dated July 19, 2009 № 204-FZ "On Making Amendments into Part Two of the Tax Code of the Russian Federation", which defines in more details the formal requirements to the taxpayers wishing to apply simplified taxation system and those who are applying such taxation system.

4. CIVIL LAW

4.1. Letter of the Federal Tax Service dated July 08, 2009 № MH-22-6/548@
"On Additions to the Letter of FTS of Russia dated June 25, 2009 № MH-22-6/511@
"On Implementation by Tax Authorities of Provisions of the Federal Law Dated

December 30, 2008 № 312-FZ", which clarifies certain issues of the state registration related to implementation of changes in the legislation on limited liability companies, which became effective on July 01, 2009.

- 4.2. Federal law dated July 17, 2009 № 166-FZ "On Making Amendments into the Federal Law "On Hypothec (Real Estate Mortgage)", dedicated to creation of mortgage as to the nonresidential premise, when such premise was in full or in part acquired by the debtor at the expense of the creditor or special-purpose loan, received from a legal entity.
- 4.3. Resolution of the Plenum of the Supreme Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation dated July 23, 2009 № 57 "On Certain Procedural Matters of the Case Consideration Practice Related to Non-fulfillment or Improper Fulfillment of the Contractual Obligations".
- 4.4. Federal law dated July 19, 2009 № 195-FZ "On Making Amendments into the Certain Legal Acts of the Russian Federation", dedicated to the amendments on improvement of the bankruptcy legislation. The amendments cover provisions on foreclosure of the debtor's pledged property and procedure of calculation of percents for the fee of the interim receiver. Moreover, certain amendments relate to procedure of sale of debtor's enterprise within introduction of external control, requirements to electronic trade floors, legal priority of creditors and procedure of sale of debtor's property within bankruptcy proceedings.
- 4.5. Federal law dated July 17, 2009 № 170-FZ "On Making Amendments into the Federal Law "On Noncommercial Organizations", which contains new provisions aimed to simplify the procedure of state registration of noncommercial organizations in Russia.

5. MIGRATION LAW

- 5.1. Federal law dated July 28, 2009 № 127-FZ " On Making Amendments into Article 6 and 7 of the Federal Law "On Legal Status of Foreign Citizens in the Russian Federation" and Article 14 of the Federal Law "On Citizenship of the Russian Federation". This law expands the list of foreign citizens and apatrides, which may obtain Russian temporary residence permit and Russian citizenship under the simplified procedure.
- 5.2. Federal law dated July 19, 2009 № 199-FZ "On Making Amendments into the Federal Law "On Migration Registration of Foreign Citizens and Apatrides in the Russian Federation", dedicated to procedural matters of filing of application on registration at place of residence by foreign citizen.

6. CORRECTIONAL LAW

6.1. Federal law dated July 19, 2009 № 191-FZ "On Making Amendments into Article 12 of Correctional Code of the Russian Federation", according to which it was introduced the ban to carry out medicine, scientific or other experiments related to test of pharmaceuticals, new methods of diagnostic, prophylaxis or cure of diseases, conduction of researches.

7. JUDICIAL SYSTEM

- 7.1. Federal law dated July 17, 2009 № 157-FZ "On Making Amendments into Article 6 and 11 of the Law of the Russian Federation "On Status of Judges in the Russian Federation" and Articles 17 and 19 of the Federal Law "On Bodies of the Judges Community in the Russian Federation". This law, first of all, is aimed to provide additional guaranties of judges' independence and for this purpose abolishes the rule on three-year probation period and doesn't provide any other terms, which may restrict judge's authorities.
- 7.2. Federal law dated July 24, 2009 № 210-FZ "On Making Amendments into Article 23 of the Federal Law "On Bodies of the Judges Community in the Russian Federation", which provides a procedure for secret ballot of the members of the judges qualification board within pre-term termination of the judge's authorities.