INVESTIGATOR'S ACTIVITY WHEN THE PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION TERMINATES WITH AN INDICTMENT

ATIVIDADE DO INVESTIGADOR QUANDO A INVESTIGAÇÃO PRELIMINAR TERMINA COM UMA DENÚNCIA

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ABSTRACT

Objective: In spite of a detailed regulation procedures of the termination of preliminary investigation with an indictment, the current criminal procedure legislation of the Russian Federation has not only failed to address numerous issues but also provoked many problems that require scientific research and incorporation in the legislation as well as in judicial practice.

Methodology: To study those issues, it is relevant both in theory and practice to conduct a complex analysis of an investigator's actions at the termination of preliminary investigation. In this way, this paper provides support for theoretical grounds that reveal the essence and content of the investigator's activities at the termination of preliminary investigation with an indictment.

Results: The results can serve as a basis for further studies aimed at solving issues at the pretrial stage of criminal proceedings including its final phase. The justification of the suggested solutions has implications for the development of criminal law theory, especially as it regards the termination of preliminary investigation with an indictment.



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Contributions: The suggestions can be used in law-making and criminal justice authorities' practice. Those suggestions may help solve a crucial theoretical and practical issue of improving the performance of the investigator at the termination of criminal proceedings.

Keyword: court; indictment; investigator; preliminary investigation; pre-trial proceedings; prosecution; prosecutor.

RESUMO

Objetivo: Apesar de uma regulamentação detalhada dos procedimentos de encerramento da investigação preliminar com uma acusação, a atual legislação processual penal da Federação Russa não apenas deixou de abordar inúmeras questões, mas também provocou muitos problemas que exigem pesquisa científica e incorporação na legislação como na prática judiciária.

Metodologia: Para estudar essas questões, é relevante tanto na teoria quanto na prática realizar uma análise complexa das ações de um investigador no final da investigação preliminar. Dessa forma, este artigo fornece subsídios para fundamentação teórica que revela a essência e o conteúdo da atividade do investigador ao término da investigação preliminar com uma acusação.

Resultados: Os resultados podem servir de base para novos estudos que visem a resolução de questões na fase pré-julgamento do processo penal incluindo a sua fase final. A justificação das soluções sugeridas tem implicações para o desenvolvimento da teoria do direito penal, especialmente no que diz respeito à extinção da instrução preliminar com acusação.

Contribuições: As sugestões podem ser utilizadas na prática legislativa e de autoridades de justiça criminal. Essas sugestões podem ajudar a resolver uma questão teórica e prática crucial para melhorar o desempenho do investigador no encerramento do processo penal.

Palavra-Chave: tribunal; acusação; investigador; investigação preliminar; procedimentos pré-julgamento; acusação; promotor.

1 INTRODUCTION

If the preliminary investigation terminates with an indictment, it implies that the investigator has come to a conclusion that the accused person is guilty of the crime based on the gathered evidence. It is relevant to science and practice to study the decisionmaking process since the investigator's mistakes lead to such a negative legal effect when the prosecutor returns the criminal case for additional investigation. Over the last decade, the number of such cases investigated by internal affairs officers adds up to from 14 000 to 15 000 (5%) annually, while the number of such cases investigated by the officers at



the Investigation Committee adds up to from 3 500 to 4 000 (3,5%). Meanwhile, 40% of those cases are returned by the prosecutor to redraft the indictment. Thus, the study of the investigator's activity in the termination of the preliminary investigation with an indictment can help reveal problems and suggest measures to improve this stage of pretrial proceedings.

It seems relevant to study these issues since there is demand for improving the quality of investigation. Thus, on January 21, 2014, the Government of the Russian Federation approved the State program No. 42-p "Public Order and Crime Prevention" (hereinafter the State program). One of its main indicators is the reduction in share of criminal cases returned from the prosecutor for additional investigation. According to Appendix 1 of the State program, this target should decline gradually from 4,9% in 2012 to 3,5% in 2020. To suffice this goal, it is important to improve the investigator's activity at the termination of preliminary investigation with an indictment.

It is also important to study this issue because it is necessary to improve the investigator's procedural activities in terminating preliminary investigation with an indictment since the current Art. 215 Para 1 of the Criminal Procedure Code fosters such conditions in which it is possible to return every criminal case for additional investigation.

We should mention the existing practices of the Constitutional Court and the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation that have highlighted the importance of ensuring the rights of victims and other parties at the termination of preliminary investigation. In particular, the Decision of the Constitutional Court No. 239-O (December 15, 2000) stipulates that failure to provide the victim with an opportunity to present evidence that can prove his/her point as well as make statements regarding the materials submitted by the other party is a violation of the victim's rights to justice and legal protection. In its turn, in the Resolution of the Plenum No. 1 "About application of regulations of the Code of penal procedure of the Russian Federation by courts" (5 March, 2004), the Supreme Court demands ensuring the victim's right to notification on the termination of preliminary investigation since failure to do that violates the right of the victim and other parties to judicial protection and access to justice and is a reason for the return of the case. The analysis of investigative and judicial practice of reasons why criminal cases are returned to the investigator helps conclude that this problem still exists and the aforementioned violations are present.

Thus, the research objectives are formulated as follows:

• to define the stage of termination of preliminary investigation including the



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investigator's actions in making the final decision as well as ensuring the rights and legal interests of the parties;

- to raise a question of defining the beginning of the termination of preliminary investigation with an indictment since there is no regulation in the Criminal Procedure Code that would require the investigator to record in a procedural document the termination of preliminary investigation and the beginning of filing the indictment. It is important since it is necessary to follow procedures of notifying the victim, civil plaintiff, civil respondent, and their representatives of the termination of preliminary investigation and file review;
- to specify the objectives of the termination of preliminary investigation with an indictment based on theoretical approaches, the current criminal procedure legislation, and judicial practice;
- to suggested an improved procedure of file review for the parties and their representatives as well as of how to make them aware of motion filing and review;
- to reveal problems prone to the investigator's activities in ensuring the parties' rights at the stage of termination of preliminary investigation with an indictment and to suggest solution;
- to justify the suggestions to improve the current legislation in terms of the procedure of termination of preliminary investigation with an indictment;
 - to devise an improved from and essence of an indictment;
- to suggest improvement in returning the case from the prosecutor to the investigator having studied the reasons and procedures for such a return.

2 MATERIALS AND METHODS

The general scientific method served as a basis for this study. It helped conduct comprehensive research on the investigator's actions at the termination of preliminary investigation with an indictment as well as the correspondent issues in evaluation, organizational and legal procedures.

Furthermore, the specific scientific methods are as follows: the formal logical method was used to analyze the constituents of the notion of termination of preliminary investigation with an indictment and to analyze the reasons why the investigator makes a decision to terminate preliminary investigation with an indictment; the comparative legal method was used to analyze the peculiarities of legal regulation of the investigator's actions at the end of preliminary investigation; the sociological method was used to



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conduct a survey among the officials of the preliminary investigation bodies; the statistical method was used to gather and analyze the information on the number of criminal cases filed to the prosecutor and returned for additional investigation; the method of juridical analysis was used to formulate suggestions to improve the criminal procedure regulation as it regards the termination of preliminary investigation.

3 RESULTS ANALYSIS

Until mid-eighteenth century, police officers were in charge of conducting preliminary investigation as well as of making decisions in minor crimes. Also, the primary role of the inquisitorial trial that granted unlimited power to the police officers deprived the accused of basically all of their modern rights. This was the reason for the criminal procedure reform including the exclusion of preliminary investigation from the police authority (1860) and the reform of criminal procedure as a whole (1864).

The RSFSR Code of Criminal Procedure approved in 1922 and 1923, extended the powers of the investigator in preliminary investigation. It included the identification of a particular person as the accused, the questioning of the accused, the compilation of a final document of the preliminary investigation, namely an indictment. Art. 30 of the Basics of the Criminal Proceedings of the USSR and Union Republics of 1958 stipulates that the investigator decides to terminate the preliminary investigation according to their inner conviction based on a scrupulous review of the gathered and assessed data and guided by the law.

Having studied the stages of the development of the termination of preliminary investigation in the Russian legislation, we can conclude that the previous provisions have evolved into new laws of criminal procedure. Now, it is possible to represent the investigator as a participant in the criminal proceedings who is in charge of preliminary investigation, gathering, and assessing information, filing an indictment, and sending a criminal case to the prosecutor for further revision at the court.

Using the dictionary and encyclopedic articles as well as researchers' opinions on the notion of activity, we have formulated the notion of the investigator's activity. It is the labour of an official responsible for preliminary investigation and other procedural functions (including termination of preliminary investigation with an indictment) as stipulated in criminal procedure legislation.

According to scientific literature and empirical evidence, there are four types of



objectives in the termination of preliminary investigation with an indictment:

- an assessment objective which includes evaluating all evidence and their adequacy to the case;
- an organizational and legal objective which consists in systematization of case files by the investigator, notifying the parties about the termination of preliminary investigation, preparing the indictment, and filing the case to the prosecutor;
- a security objective which aims to ensure the rights, freedoms, and legal interests
 of the parties as well as their ability to review the case and file motions;
- a monitoring objective which consists in the prosecutor's actions and decisions as
 of the case with an indictment, and the investigator's activity in terms of the returned case
 without an indictment.

It is reasonable to consider an indictment order as the initial stage of the termination of preliminary investigation; however, the current criminal procedure legislation does not stipulate that. Thus, it seems reasonable to amend Art. 215 Part 1 of the Criminal Procedure Code that it is necessary to issue an order to terminate gathering and assessing evidence of a criminal case. It will help the investigator to focus on important investigative actions that are aimed at establishing the ultimate fact and eliminating possible discrepancies in evidence (Pushkarev et al., 2020, pp. 7950-7952). The majority of investigators (51.6%) are in favour, approximately a third (33.6%) are against, and 14.8% suppose that it will not affect investigators' activity.

Based on the objectives of termination of preliminary investigation, we suggest the following definition. Termination of preliminary investigation is a time period which starts when the investigator conducts the final assessment of evidence to establish the circumstances to be proved and files an order to terminate gathering and assessing evidence of a criminal case; it ends when the prosecutor sends the criminal case to court with an indictment.

Out of the total number of 155, 129 of respondents (83.4%) agree with ершы definition while 26 (16.6%) do not.

Researchers in the field of procedural law express opposing opinions on notifying mechanisms of the parties. However, many scientists (O.A. Galustyan, A.P. Kizlyk, E.I. Konakh, M.V. Parfenova, etc.) suppose that it is important to notify the parties on the termination of investigative actions in the written form. Meanwhile, other authors (I.V. Misnik, D.P. Chekulayev, V.S. Shadrin) are opposed to the written notification.

According to our sociological study, 66.5% of investigators believe that the written



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notification is necessary, 30.3% of investigators support the oral notification, and 3.2% suppose that it is not necessary to notify other parties. Meanwhile, the analysis of case files, which were filed to the court with an indictment, shows that the accused party reviewed case files in 100% of cases; the defendant reviewed them in 95.4% of cases; the victim (or their representative) reviewed the files in 34.5% of cases; the civil plaintiff (or their representative) reviewed the files in 12.6% of cases. The importance of ensuring the victim's right to notification on the termination of preliminary investigation is stipulated in the Resolution of the Plenum of the Supreme Court No. 1 (5 March 2004).

Thus, it is suggested to unify the procedure stipulated in Art. 215, Part 2 of the Criminal Procedure Code and add that the investigator should notify the defendant, the representative of the accused party (if they take part in the case), the victim, the civil claimant and defendant (and their representatives) and also specify their rights as in Art. 217 of the Criminal Procedure Code. 78% of the respondents approve this suggestion.

The analysis of Art. 215 of the Criminal Procedure Code, namely Part 2 and Part 3, helped identify the conflict of norms. In this way, Part 2 states that the investigator "shall notify about the end of the investigative actions the counsel for the defence and the legal representative of the accused, if these are taking part in the criminal case, as well as the victim, the civil claimant, the civil defendant and their representatives". At the same time, Part 3 states that it is possible to postpone getting acquainted with the case materials; however, it does not mention the victim but his/her representatives. In this regard, it is suggested to extend the application of Art. 215, Part 3 on those cases when the victim cannot be present due to valid reasons.

The investigator shall file the notification on the termination of preliminary investigation according to the current legislation. If the accused refuses to get acquainted with the criminal case materials, it should be reflected in the protocol on the acquaintance with case materials, confirmed with notes on the summons, etc. It is relevant to compile a protocol as in Art. 166 of the Criminal Procedure Code to point out that the accused has not come to get acquainted with the case files and has not notified the investigator on any valid reasons for that.

Having analyzed the law enforcement practice, we can conclude that the failure to acquaint the victim with the case files or absence of information on whether the victim could have had acquainted with the files can be considered reasons for the prosecutor to send a criminal case to the investigator for additional investigation. According to our survey, 78% of the respondents support introducing a regulation to require the investigator



to acquaint the victim (and their representatives) with the criminal case files, while 22% of the respondents are against. It is believed that introduction of this measure will be an additional mechanism to ensure the rights and legal interests of the victim during preliminary investigation.

Thus, it is necessary to amend Art. 222, Part 2 of the Criminal Procedure Code as it regards handling the bill of indictment, i.e. it shall be handled not only to the accused but also to his/her defence counsel and the victim without them filing the petition.

It is also believed introduction of the notion of damage caused by the crime to the Criminal Procedure Code (Dung et al., 2021, p. 1398; Nguyen et al., 2021, pp. 211-220) will favour the protection of the victim's rights.

Before presenting the case materials to the parties, the investigator shall compile them, enumerate, and sew up. After that, it is possible to let the parties get acquainted with the materials under a protocol and a schedule, if necessary. This position is justified by the Decision of the Constitution Court on 16 July, 2009 No. 979-O which is reflected also in Art. 217, Part 1 of the Criminal Procedure Code stipulating that the investigator shall present all case materials as a set of classified documents.

It is a controversial question what the investigator shall do if the accused and his/her defendant are evading getting acquainted with the materials thus delaying the proceedings. In order to improve the performance of the investigator, it is advisable to amend Art. 217, Part 3 of the Criminal Procedure Code as it regards the procedure for the accused and his/her defendant to get acquainted with the case files. If the accused is held in custody, the court shall fix the time period for the accused and his/her defendant to get acquainted with the case files as stipulated in Art. 217, Part 3 of the Criminal Procedure Code; if the accused is not held in custody, the investigator (given the permission by the head of the investigative body) shall fix the time period for the accused and his/her defendant to get acquainted with the case files granting them the right to file a complaint to the court under Art. 125 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

It is suggested to define "a petition in pre-trial proceedings" as an official appeal by the suspect, the accused, his/her defendant, private prosecutor, civil claimant, civil defendant and their representatives addressed to the officials who are in charge of preliminary investigation of criminal cases in order to perform procedural actions or take procedural decisions to identify circumstances which are of importance for the criminal case.

Having analyzed the criminal procedure regulations (Art. 215, 216, 218 of the



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Criminal Procedure Code), it can be concluded that having resolved the petition, the investigator shall notify the parties and acquaint them with additional materials in case they request it. For the additional review of case materials, the investigator presents only those materials that have been gathered during additional procedural actions.

If the satisfaction of the petition is refused fully or in part, the investigator shall pass a resolution to this effect which shall be brought to the applicant's knowledge in person (to sign the corresponding papers) or by sending a copy of the order by mail, telegraph, or fax.

It is suggested to amend Art. 216 of the Criminal Procedure Code with the third part to state that the investigator shall explain to the victim, civil claimant, civil defendant and their representatives that they have a right to file a petition for preliminary hearing in cases envisaged in Art. 229, Part 2 of the Criminal Procedure Code. In our survey, 70% of the respondents vote in favour of this initiative.

Moreover, the Criminal Procedure Code of the Russian Federation does not stipulate time limits for preparing and filing a petition. It is possible to refer to Art. 287 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Azerbajan Republic which argues for two days to prepare and file a petition. It is suggested to incorporate this regulation into the Russian legislation as well.

The analysis of the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code and 174 criminal cases with an indictment help conclude that the final documents of the preliminary investigation have four interconnected parts, namely introduction, description and motivation, and conclusion. However, the resolutory part is not covered sufficiently in the structure of the indictment. For example, Art. 205 of the RSFSR Code of Criminal Procedure stipulated that an indictment consists of two parts, particularly the descriptive and resolutory parts. As of now, Art. 220 of the Criminal Procedure Code does not mention the structure whereas the introduction, description and motivation, and conclusion are based solely on the general structure of legal documents per se.

The introduction of the indictment consists of three elements. The first element is comprised of identification data, e.g. the title, case number, full name of the accused as in Art. 220, Part 1, Para. 1. The second element is comprised of personal data on the each of the accused (Art. 220, Part 1, Para. 2). The third element is the characterization of an act what breaches the common practice for identification of the resolutory part in such documents.

It is possible to conclude that the main objective of the description and motivation



is to describe all the elements as in Art. 220, Part 2, and the circumstances relevant to the case. In addition, it is not advisable to mention the investigator's opinion on the information presented by the defence. We support the position of V.V. Pushkarev who states that it is the defence who shall compile the correspondent part of the indictment ("proof that is cited by the defence") (Pushkarev et al., 2020, p, 286). However the investigator should justify his/her position in a proper subsection of the description and motivation part of the indictment.

The comparative analysis of criminal procedure provisions of the RSFSR and the Russian Federation help justify the following suggestions: to distinguish three parts of the indictment in Art. 220 of the Criminal Procedure Code, namely the introduction, description and motivation, and conclusion; to group information that should be mentioned in each part; to unify the structure of the indictment according to other legal documents.

It has been revealed that the head of the investigative body have the authority to return the case to the investigator and to attach his/her instructions on additional investigation (Art. 39, Part 3, Para. 11 of the Criminal Procedure Code). It is suggested to broaden responsibilities of the head of the investigative body and to empower him/her to return the case to the investigator and to attach his/her instructions on re-filing the indictment what can improve the control over lawfulness and reason for the indictment as well as create additional guarantees for ensuring rights and legal interests of the parties in criminal proceedings.

It is also possible to justify the important role of the prosecutor at this stage of pretrial proceedings since his/her actions in reviewing a criminal case with an indictment are crucial in criminal procedure especially for further proceedings when the prosecutor acts as a Public Prosecutor.

Having analyzed criminal case materials, we revealed that the main reasons why prosecutors returned criminal cases for additional investigation are substantial violations of criminal procedure legislation (26%); incompleteness of preliminary investigation (45%); grounds for charging the accused with another offense which is more severe or significantly different (2,5%); technical mistakes (of organizational origin) (10%).

Having analyzed the prosecutor's responsibilities in addressing a criminal case with an indictment, it is suggested to revive the former responsibility to file a new indictment what will help him/her reflect fully his/her position as a Public Prosecutor. Such a responsibility is stipulated in the legislation of foreign countries (e.g. Art. 302 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Art. 264, Part 1, Para. 1 of the Criminal



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Procedure Code of the Republic of Belarus).

Moreover, to ensure the rights and legal interests of the accused and the victim, it is possible to grant the prosecutor a responsibility to give a copy of an indictment (with appendices) not only to the accused but also to his/her defence as well as to the victim without him/her filing a petition.

Taking into account the fact that due to the specifics of higher education in the Russian Federation, the training of specialists of the appropriate profile is conducted not only by universities and departmental educational institutions, but also by technical universities, this will require additional "actualization of the need to create and maintain a humanitarian component in a higher technical educational institution, allowing students to expand their worldview" (Savka et al., 2021, p. 99; Ivanov et al., 2020, p. 623-630).

4 CONCLUSIONS

- 1. The termination of preliminary investigation with an indictment is an important stage of pre-trial proceedings since at this stage the investigator assesses evidence and after that concludes if the person is guilty of the crime he/she is charged with. At the same time, the investigator performs his/her duty in ensuring the rights and legal interests of the parties, i.e. the victim, the civil claimant, the civil defendant and their representatives. If their rights to get acquainted with case materials are violated, the prosecutor or the head of the investigative body may return the case for the additional investigation.
- 2. Termination of preliminary investigation is a time period which starts when the investigator conducts the final assessment of evidence to establish the circumstances to be proved and files an order to terminate gathering and assessing evidence of a criminal case; it ends when the prosecutor sends the criminal case to court with an indictment.
- 3. There are four types of objectives in the termination of preliminary investigation with an indictment:
- an assessment objective which includes evaluating all evidence and their adequacy to the case;
- an organizational and legal objective which consists in systematization of case files by the investigator, notifying the parties about the termination of preliminary investigation, preparing the indictment, and filing the case to the prosecutor;
- a security objective which aims to ensure the rights, freedoms, and legal interests of the parties as well as their ability to review the case and file motions;



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a monitoring objective which consists in the prosecutor's actions and decisions as
of the case with an indictment, and the investigator's activity in terms of the returned case

without an indictment.

4. It is reasonable to identify the stage of termination of preliminary investigation as

a set of actions including the notification of the accused, the defence, the representative

of the accused (if they participate in proceedings) as well as the victim, the civil claimant,

the civil defendant and their representatives. The procedure of getting acquainted with the

case materials shall begin with the investigator's filing an order to terminate to terminate

gathering and assessing evidence of a criminal case; it shall end when the prosecutor

sends the criminal case to court with an indictment.

5. It is advisable to amend Art. 217, Part 3 of the Criminal Procedure Code as it

regards the procedure for the accused and his/her defendant to get acquainted with the

case files. If the accused is held in custody, the court shall fix the time period for the

accused and his/her defendant to get acquainted with the case files as stipulated in Art.

217, Part 3 of the Criminal Procedure Code; if the accused is not held in custody, the

investigator (given the permission by the head of the investigative body) shall fix the time

period for the accused and his/her defendant to get acquainted with the case files granting

them the right to file a complaint to the court under Art. 125 of the Criminal Procedure

Code.

6. It is suggested to define "a petition in pre-trial proceedings" as an official appeal

by the suspect, the accused, his/her defendant, private prosecutor, civil claimant, civil

defendant and their representatives addressed to the officials who are in charge of

preliminary investigation of criminal cases in order to perform procedural actions or take

procedural decisions to identify circumstances which are of importance for the criminal

case.

7. In the structure of the indictment, it is advisable to single out the information

presented by the defence alongside the evidence that substantiates the allegations. If such

information is refuted, the investigator shall mention them in the appropriate subsection,

thus there is a need to modify the structure of the indictment.

8. The suggestions to amend the Criminal Procedure Code of the Russian

Federation are as follows:

to unify the procedure stipulated in Art. 215, Part 2 of the Criminal Procedure

Code and add that the investigator should notify the defendant, the representative of the

accused party (if they take part in the case), the victim, the civil claimant and defendant

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(and their representatives) and also specify their rights as in Art. 217 of the Criminal Procedure Code;

- to extend the application of Art. 215, Part 3 of the Criminal Procedure Code (which stipulates that it is possible to postpone the acquaintance with the case materials for five days if he counsel for the defence and the legal representative of the accused or the representative of the victim, of the civil claimant or of the civil defendant cannot come for getting acquainted with the criminal case materials at the appointed time) for such cases when the victim, the civil claimant and the civil defendant cannot come for getting acquainted with the criminal case materials due to valid reasons;
- to amend Art. 215, Part 3 of the Criminal Procedure Code and indicate that it is possible to postpone the acquaintance with the case materials if the victim cannot come due to valid reasons;
- to amend Art. 216 of the Criminal Procedure Code with the third part to state that the investigator shall explain to the victim, civil claimant, civil defendant and their representatives that they have a right to file a petition for preliminary hearing in cases envisaged in Art. 229, Part 2 of the Criminal Procedure Code;
- to amend Art. 217, Part 1 of the Criminal Procedure Code and indicate that if there are several accused in the criminal case, each of them (including their defendants) shall receive the same materials to get acquainted with;
- to amend Art. 219 of the Criminal Procedure Code as it regards the procedure for filing and reviewing petitions:
- "1. Once the accused, the defendant, the victim, the civil claimant, civil defendant and their representatives have got acquainted with the case materials, the investigator shall clarify whether they need to file petitions to request additional investigative actions or procedural decisions.
 - 2. The parties may have three days to prepare and file a petition.
- 3. If the satisfaction of the petition is refused fully or in part, the investigator shall pass a resolution to this effect which shall be brought to the applicant's knowledge within three days. The investigator shall also explain how to appeal";
- to amend Art. 221, Part 1 of the Criminal Procedure Code with the fourth paragraph and indicate that the prosecutor may not agree with the content of the indictment presented by the investigator. In this case, the prosecutor may file a new indictment and send it to the court;
 - to amend Art. 222, Part 2 of the Criminal Procedure Code as it regards handling



the bill of indictment, i.e. it shall be handled not only to the accused but also to his/her defence counsel and the victim without them filing the petition.

It should be noted that the proposed changes in the norms of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Russian Federation should be appropriately reflected in the training courses of criminal procedure law taught in the framework of bachelor's and master's programs.

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