THE COMMITTEE OF ADVOCATES' RIGHTS DEFENCE OF THE CHAMBER OF ADVOCATES OF RA CAME OUT WITH AN ANNOUNCEMENT



Advocate Arayik Papikyan is the defender of the incarcerated person Ashot Petrosyan who is held in the criminal executive institution of the MI of RA "Hospital of the convicted". On the 15.02.2017 the employees of the CEI on making a reference to the domestic regulations affirmed by the 1543 decision from 03.08.2006 of the government of RA "About the affirmation of the domestic regulations of the places of detention for the incarcerated and penal and correctional institutions of the criminal executive institution of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Armenia" (henceforth the Regulations), forbade Arayik Papikyan to have a private meeting with his defender, as the latter hadn't allowed the employees of the CEI after they had reviewed the paper carriers of the advocate case he had with him, to get acquainted to the content of those documents.

Advocate Mushegh Shushanyan on the 14.02.2017 visited the CEI "Armavir" of the MJ of RA in order to meet his defendants Jirayr Sefilyan and Varujan Avetisyan. The employees of the CEI on examining Mushegh Shushanyan's garment and the content of the plastic bag he had with him by means of special equipment and visual methods and on finding in the plastic bag only paper carriers, announced that they have to search the advocate's plastic bag to find out if the documents in it refer to the criminal case. Mushegh Shushanyan refused from the search as a result of which the head of the CEI "Armavir" of the MJ of RA by his decision from 14.02.2017 denied his visitation of the incarcerated person Jirayr Sefilyan.

Advocate Monika Margaryan is the defender of the incarcerated person Tatul Tamrazyan who is held in the criminal executive institution of the MJ of RA "Hospital of the convicted". On the 31.01.2017 the employees of the CEI, on making a reference to the Regulations, forbade Monika Margaryan to have a personal meeting with her defendant, as the advocate, after she and her things had been reviewed, refused from being searched.

The noted cases had been discussed by the Committee of Advocates' Rights Defence of the Chamber of Advocates of RA, and taking into consideration the results of the discussion, the Committee came out with the following announcement:

«- The Committee of the Advocates' Rights Defence of the Chamber of Advocates of RA condemns the

ban for advocates Mushegh Shushanyan, Arayik Papikyan and Monika Margaryan visitation of their defendants imposed by the CEI of the MJ RA "Armavir" and CEI "Hospital of the convicted" of the MJ of RA on the plea of that the latter refused from a search and/or from giving the advocacy documentary they had with them for examination to the employees of the CEI or making them available in other sense.

- The Committee admonishes the state structures and official persons to refrain from interfering advocacy activity".

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