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VEGAS LEX DISCUSSES THE JUDICIAL PRACTICE CONCERNING THE DEBT COLLECTION IN THE HOUSING AND UTILITY SECTOR OF THE ROSTOV REGION

Ilya Shengeliya, VEGAS LEX's Southern Directorate Project manager, made an overview of the judicial practice concerning non-payments in the housing and utility sector at a round-table meeting of the Publishing House "Kommersant" in Rostov-on-Don.

On 30 June 2017, in Rostov-on-Don, there was held the round-table meeting of "Kommersant-South of Russia" on the topic "Non-payments in the housing and utility sector: judicial practice and topical issues of 2017" at which the regional representatives of state authorities, energy market and external experts discussed the regional practice of application of the regulatory and legal framework governing the procedures of settlement between the consumers of energy resources and gas, heat and electricity supply companies.

<u>Ilya Shengeliya</u>, VEGAS LEX's Southern Directorate Project manager, told about the results of practical application of Federal Law No.307 in the context of the judicial practice concerning the collection of accounts receivable in the energy sector and in the housing and utility sector. The expert also mentioned initiatives in the area of statutory regulation such as simplification of the direct contract conclusion procedure, raising of responsibility of the management companies and their officers, establishment of control over information transparency, introduction of the management companies' obligation to secure their obligations by a bank guarantee, etc.

The participants also discussed the situation concerning the payment discipline of the consumers of public utilities and the prospects of introduction of the Geo Information System "Housing and Utility Sector" (GIS ZhKH) in order to improve the transparency of settlements in the Rostov Region; the effect of changes in the housing legislation on the payment discipline in the sector; the judicial practice concerning debt related disputes between the utility providers, housing companies and population; the reasons and advantages of transition to the direct settlements with population for heat supply services; and measures to ensure the performance of obligations and improve the payment discipline.

Following the results of the meeting, it is planned to prepare a resolution for its submission to the federal executive and legislative authorities.

For more information on VEGAS LEX's activity in the energy sector, please click <u>here.</u>

For more detailed information on VEGAS LEX Southern Directorate's activity, please click here.