

**MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS**

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On specifying the scope of
competence

In response to your appeal received on March 6, 2019 the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Belarus, within the scope of its competence, reports the following.

The procedure for the filing of appeals with state bodies and other organizations by citizens and legal entities, as well as the procedure for considering such appeals, is established by the Law of the Republic of Belarus No. 300-3 “On Appeals of Citizens and Legal Entities” of July 18, 2011 (hereinafter the Law) and by Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus No. 498 “On Additional Measures for Processing Appeals of Citizens and Legal Entities” of October 15, 2007 (hereinafter - Decree No. 498).

In accordance with paragraph 3 of article 10 of the Law, when state body or another organization receive appeals containing issues that are not within their competence, they leave the appeals without consideration on the merits and specify to which organization the issues stated in the appeals should be referred.

According to Decree No. 498, the Ministry of Justice considers the merits of appeals related to the field of justice, including the issues of registration of acts of civil status, monitoring the implementation of these activities, issues related to the organization of the work of the enforcement agencies, monitoring compliance with the law on notaries, on legal practice and on providing legal services.

Your appeal does not contain issues related to the competence of the Ministry of Justice.

By virtue of Decree No. 498, the chairpersons of the respective courts, of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus are responsible for the consideration the merits of appeals related to judicial activities, including the organization of the work of district (city) and regional (Minsk City) courts.

Furthermore, hereby we inform you that, in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 3 of the Law, foreign citizens and stateless persons, representative

offices of foreign organizations may exercise their right to appeal on an equal basis with citizens and legal entities of the Republic of Belarus, unless otherwise specified by the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, laws and international treaties of the Republic of Belarus.

Furthermore, it is important to note that, in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Belarus No. 334-3 “On Lawyers and Legal Practice in the Republic of Belarus” of December 30, 2011, rendering legal assistance to clients on a professional basis in order to exercise and protect their rights, freedoms and interests is one of the main objectives of the legal practice. Therefore, you are entitled to contact a lawyer of your choice for receiving legal assistance, including advice and clarification on legal issues.

Deputy Minister

I.G. Tushinsky