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## **Concept and Essence of Operational Search**

The analysis of the term «the essence of operational search» is carried out. Essence as a philosophical category determines the inner content of an object, expressed in the unity of all its diverse properties and relationships. The concept of the content of activities that provides the process of identifying crimes is disclosed.

The essence and justification of the concept of operational search as a process of identifying individuals and facts that are of operational interest is determined. The process of identifying crimes is specific and takes into account the possibility of obtaining information by operational units. The signs with which help it is possible to define essence of operative search depending on the tasks executed during its carrying out are allocated. The essence of the search can be positioned as a series of tasks in the process of implementing operational-search activities.

In the process of searching for actual data at the stage of operational search, the following stages can be distinguished:

- identification of places where criminogenic processes tend to repeat, the regularity of manifestations in time and space, as well as the characteristics inherent in the objects of the operative search activity;
- the identification of persons, objects and phenomena that are of operational interest, on the basis of recognition by search criteria, the identification of primary information on the characteristics of the wrongful act;
- verification of primary information on the characteristics of the wrongful act;
- evaluation of the results of the audit and conclusions about the presence or absence of signs of a crime;
  - deciding on the use of search results.

**Keywords:** persons, facts, operational interest, operational search, essence, concept, direct and indirect information acquisition.