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## **In Sverdlovsk Region four accomplices found guilty of killing co-founder of Yekaterinburg restaurant**



A court has recognized the evidence gathered by the Sverdlovsk Region investigating bodies of the Russia's Investigative Committee sufficient to convict four accomplices – 53-year-old Irina Yegupova, 27-year-old former criminal Robert Gaffarov, 20-year-old Stepan Golomolzin and their 17-year-old accomplice. Depending on the role of each one they were found guilty of crimes under part 3 of article 33, paragraphs “g” and “h” of part 2 of article 105 of the RF Penal Code (organization of murder committed by a group of people in previous conspiracy and on hire), paragraphs “g” and “h” of part 2 of article 105 (murder committed by a group of people in previous conspiracy and on hire), paragraph “c” of part 158 (theft committed by a group of people in previous conspiracy on a large scale) and part 4 of article 150 (involving a minor in a criminal group and in felony).

The court and investigators have revealed that in the evening of 13 August 2014, three young people on the order of Yegupova, who was director of a restaurant popular in Yekaterinburg, stabbed over 30 times the co-founder of the restaurant and beat him hard in one of the restaurant's offices. The

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man died of the wounds. The accomplices stole from the office over 800 thousand rubles worth of things and took off in a car driven by Yegupova. The investigators found that the murder had been organized by Yegupova, who at the time was the director of the USSR restaurant. She disliked the man because they had had many conflicts related to their business. She had asked her relative Gaffarov, who had been previously convicted, and he then found accomplices – young people aged 20 and 17 years. To coerce her younger accomplices to the crime the woman had promised them to pay about 70 thousand rubles and told that the victim had some valuable things on him, which after he had been killed they could take. The investigators also found that later Gaffarov had involved two other accomplices.

It should be noted that the first time the three accomplices had tried to kill the co-founder of the restaurant on 12 August 2014 in the afternoon in a biathlon sports base in Yekaterinburg. When the man was ski rolling, they attacked him and tried to beat with a baseball bat. The man fought back and the attackers had to flee to the woods. On their way they wounded the man from a non-fatal gun. Next day, in the evening of 13 August, they killed the man (Yegupova gave them a lift to the murder scene and waited for them, then she drove them away to the village of Beloyarsky, where the accomplices lived).

The organizer of the murder and two of her accomplices were detained in the evening on 16 August by investigators of Kirov district department of the regional investigative committee near a house in Kristall Sanatorium in the village of Beloyarsky. The fourth of the accomplices was detained later in the day in the town of Bogdanovich. Following a request of investigators a court ruled to place all four of them in custody pending trial. During the initial investigation three of four accomplices confessed to the crime and told the details. The accused were questioned about the details of the crime and their testimony was checked on site in their presence. The organizer of the crime partially admitted her guilt.

The court has sentenced Yegupova to 14 years in a minimum-security penal colony, Gaffarov to 19 years in a maximum-security penal colony, Golomolzin to 16 years in a maximum-security penal colony and their 17-year-old accomplice to 9 years to be served in a juvenile colony. In addition, they are to pay 4 million in damages.

*17 December 2015*

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