
In Moscow, organizer of gang found guilty of series of assaults and murders of businessmen



A court has recognized the evidence collected by the first office of the Department of the Investigative Committee based in Moscow sufficient to convict Andrei Safronov. He was found guilty of crimes under Article 105 of the RF Penal Code (murder), Part 1 of Article 209 (banditry) and Article 222 (illegal purchase, transfer, selling, storage, transportation or carrying of firearms, its main parts, ammunition).

The court and investigators have revealed that in 2005, Safronov set up an organized stable armed group (gang) for the purpose of killing citizens for fee, and involved there Dmitry Makarenko, Yuri Khasanov and Gennady Shevchenko. Under the leadership and following orders of Safronov, in 2005-2009, members of the gang committed attempted murders and murders of businessmen in Moscow and Moscow Region, including murder of one of co-founders of OOO Interfrukt Solomon Gavrilov. For assaults the gangsters used cold and firearms. In all, the accomplices committed four murders. The gang stopped existing in December 2011, as most of its members were detained by law-enforcement officers.

The court has sentenced Safronov to life imprisonment and also satisfied actions filed by victims' relatives and obliged Safronov to pay them 5 million rubles,

Earlier Makarenko, Khasanov and Shevchenko were sentenced to long terms in prison.

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