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## **In Saint Petersburg, organizer of criminal community to stand trial**

The Saint Petersburg Directorate of the Investigative Committee has finished the investigation against Boris Bogdanov charged with organization of criminal community, 3 counts of money laundering, 7 counts of swindling, including 3 attempted frauds, and 3 counts of kidnapping (Part 1 of Article 210 of the RF Penal Code, Part 3, item “a” of Article 126, Part 4 of Article 159, Part 4 of Article 174.1).

According to investigators, no later than in July 2005, Bogdanov set up and headed a criminal community involving 9 people to defraud residents of Saint Petersburg of their property, including by abducting them. The gang was organized, united, disciplined and stable, with all its members having the same aspirations. The duties were clearly divided among the members of the gang.

The gangsters found people among problem citizens who owned flats. They deceived the owners and abused their trust to get hold of their flats and sell them to other people. In some cases the perpetrators kidnapped the victims and forced them to transfer the property to the gangsters. This way, between 2005 and 2007, the gangsters misappropriated 7 flats with more than 12 million rubles.

After having been charged Bogdanov violated the conditions of release on recognizance and fled. On 1 April 2008, he was put on a wanted list. Later a court ruled in absentia to remand him in custody. On 11 February 2016, he was detained by the officers of the Saint Petersburg and Leningrad Region Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior.

The cases against Bogdanov’s accomplices were referred to court earlier and they got different prison times.

The investigators have enough evidence, so the criminal case against Bogdanov has been referred to court.

08 July 2016

Page address: <https://en.sledcom.ru/news/item/1052952>

