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## **Two gang members responsible for committing especially grave offenses in Pyatigorsk sentenced**



The evidence gathered by the Main Investigations Directorate of the Investigative Committee of Russia over the North-Caucasian Federal District has been found by the court to be sufficient to sentence Rinat Suleimanov and Rusmanbet Menglibaev. Depending on the role of each, they have been found guilty of committing offenses under Part 2 of Article 209; Paragraphs A, C of Part 2 of Article 205; Part 3 of Article 30, Paragraph A of Part 2 of Article 205; Part 3 of Article 223 of the Criminal Code of Russia (gang affiliation, terrorist attack, attempted terrorist attack, illegal manufacture of an explosive device).

The investigation and the court established that Suleimanov and Menglibaev had voluntarily joined a gang led by Rafael Ismailov and taken an active part in committing especially grave offenses. For instance, on August 15, 2010, acting in accordance with a previously developed plan, the gang members had killed a local citizen and taken over his VAZ-2106 car with taxi signs. Later, they had

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equipped the vehicle with a self-made explosive device and parked it between a café and residential buildings in Pyatigorsk. On August 17, an explosion of the self-made device had affected 46 persons, inflicting injuries of varying severity and significant material damage to the property of citizens and organizations.

On September 30 of the same year, acting in accordance with a previously developed plan, gang members had murdered a man and taken over his VAZ-21074 car with taxi signs in Stavropol. They had left the body of the owner in the car and also equipped the car with a self-made explosive device. Gang members had parked the car near café Gloria in Stavropol and installed a second explosive device on the rear side of the café. However, they had failed to implement their criminal intent to the full due to reasons not related to the accomplices, since the self-made explosive devices had been subject to constructive changes during transportation.

During the preliminary investigation, 205 persons living in Caucasian Mineral Waters and Stavropol were identified, recognized as victims, and questioned. The investigation included over 600 forensic examinations, the conclusions of which enabled investigators to establish the involvement of the perpetrators in the above-listed offenses.

The court has sentenced Menglibaev to 17 years of imprisonment in a strict regime penal colony and Suleimanov to 15 years of imprisonment in a strict regime penal colony.

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