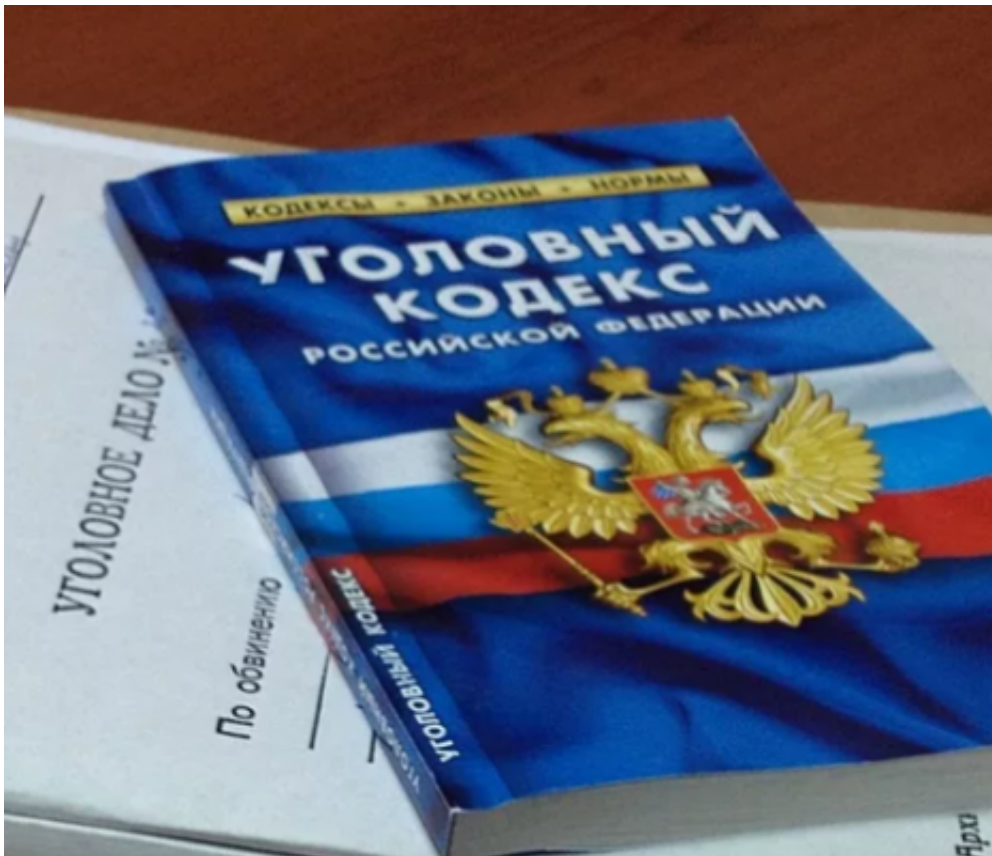

In Moscow Region, members of a gang of "black real estate agents" accused of a number of grave and especially grave offenses to stand trial



The Moscow Main Investigative Department of the Investigative Committee of Russia finished investigation of a probe into gang leader Anatoly Mazurov and three his accomplices. Depending on the role and involvement of each, they are charged with committing offenses under Part 1 of Article 209 (creation of a stable armed group), Paragraphs A, G, H, J of Part 2 of Article 105 (murder of two persons committed by an organized group put of mercenary motives in order to conceal another offense), Paragraphs A, G, H of Part 2 of Article 105 (murder of two persons committed by an organized group out of mercenary motives), Paragraphs G, H of Part 2 of Article 105 (murder committed by an organized group out of mercenary motives), Paragraphs A, C, D, H of Part 2 of Article 126 (kidnapping, committed by a group of persons with use of violence and weapons out of mercenary motives), Part 3 of Article 222 (illegal turnover of weapons committed by an organized

group), Part 4 of Article 159 of the Criminal Code of Russia (swindling).

Investigation established that in 2008 Mazur organized a stable armed group in order to murder a police officer and commit future offenses aimed to obtain real estate property of lonely citizens. The gang members had several real estate agencies that provided them with information on property of a citizen and presence or absence of relatives. They have 5 murders on their account. Thus, in 2008, Mazur, together with members of the gang, realizing that one of the police officers was aware of their criminal activities, developed a plan and lured the policeman into the back room of a building located in the city of Noginsk. However, the man did not come alone, but with his partner. As a result, members of the armed group killed both of them, hid their bodies and buried them in the forest. In 2010, Mazur single-handedly committed the murder of a woman in the city of Noginsk in order to seize the money she received from the sale of an apartment. In 2012 and 2014, the defendants committed a murder of several more citizens who did not have relatives, before that they took possession of a general power of attorney and re-registered their apartments.

During the investigation of the criminal case, the investigator carried out a large amount of work, namely: about 100 interrogations, 4 checks of testimony on the spot, 3 face-to-face confrontations, 2 exhumations in order to identify bodies and conduct genetics, more than 50 examinations were appointed and carried out, including a posthumous complex situational forensic -medical examination, assessment, handwriting and others. Evidence and examination reports provided a basis for indictment. As a result, a probe with an approved indictment was referred to the Moscow City Court to be tried on the merits.

In 2017 Mazur and one of his accomplices have already been sentenced to life and 18 years of imprisonment respectively. Two gang members died before being detained, the third - in a temporary isolator during preliminary investigation. One of gang members is still on the wanted list. The probe against him is to be presented separately.

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