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## **A wanted accomplice of a gang operating in St Petersburg is detained and charged**



It was previously reported that two men were found guilty, depending on their roles, of committing offences under Part 2 of Article 209 (banditry), Part 3 of Article 222 (trafficking in weapons and ammunition), Paragraphs A and B of Part 4 of Article 162 (robbery), Article 317 (attempt on the life of a law enforcement officer) and Part 1 of Article 318 of the Criminal Code (violence against a representative of the authorities).

The investigation and the court established that, on January 31, 2018, the convicts, acting as part of a stable armed group (gang), entered a jewelry store on Prospect Bolshevikov in Saint Petersburg on the evening of January 31, 2018 and, using firearms as a threat, stole 1,104 pieces of jewelry displayed in the sales area of the store of the total value exceeding 9 million rubles.

Fleeing the scene of the crime in a car, the perpetrators opened fire on officers from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Krasnogvardeysky district of St Petersburg who were trying to apprehend them at the intersection of Industrialny and Irinovsky avenues, leaving one police officer with a gunshot wound. Two gang participants were also injured with counterfire; the perpetrators were detained.

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Arslan Zakaliyev, one of the attackers, managed to flee the scene. He was charged and remanded in absentia and placed on an international wanted list.

On 3 December 2021, Zakaliev was detained in the Moscow Region by officers of the Main Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for St. Petersburg and the Leningrad Region and taken to St Petersburg.

Zakaliyev was charged with committing offences under Part 2 of Article 209 (banditry), Part 3 of Article 222 (illegal trafficking in weapons and ammunition), Paragraphs A and B of Part 4 of Article 162 (robbery), and Part 1 of Article 318 of the Criminal Code (violence against a representative of the authorities).

The criminal investigation is ongoing.

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