
In Saint-Petersburg investigation against a gang attacking money collectors finished

Saint-Petersburg Central Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee has completed investigating a criminal case against Sergey Yegorov and Maksim Ponomaryov who depending on the role of each of them are charged with part 1 of article 209, paragraphs "a, b, f, g, h" of part 2 of article 105, paragraphs "a, b, c" of part 4 of article 162, part 2 of article 167, part 3 of article 222, paragraphs "a, b" of part 4 of article 226 of the RF Criminal Code (banditry, murder, robbery, illegal handling of firearms, intentional damage to property).

According to investigators, Yegorov and Ponomaryov in Saint-Petersburg set up a gang to rob citizens and organizations. As the objects for robberies they chose persons working as money collectors in different organizations of Saint-Petersburg. For this purpose they illegally obtained 2 Kalashnikovs, TT gun and ammunition for them.

Yegorov and Ponomaryov together developed detailed plans of robberies, distributed roles in the crimes and money received by robberies among themselves. Preparing for each crime they carefully watched the victims, determined the robbery time and vehicles, including the ones purchased especially for robberies, chose and prepared weapons, not using any of them twice. The money received by criminal activity was for a long time main source of funds for the accused.

On 8 July 2005, the accomplices attacked two money collectors in North Western Excise Customs and Motor Vehicles Customs Registration Center ZAO ROSTEK-Severo-Zapad (CJSC) at shosse Revolyutsii. Ponomaryov killed one of the money collectors from the submachine gun. The accused stole more than 1 million 500 thousand rubles and more than \$200 thousand, as well as submachine gun AKS-74, TT and IZH-71 pistols.

On 28 December 2012, the accused attacked two money collectors near the commercial bank Loko-Bank at Leninsky Prospekt. To commit the crime Yegorov and Ponomaryov used cars VAZ-21144 and Hyundai, radio stations equipped with concealed microphones, necessary for disguise clothes and a baby pram to take the submachine gun to the crime scene. Yegorov armed with AK-74 submachine gun and Ponomaryov – with TT pistol gun shot at the money collectors no less than 20 times. The collectors died on the spot. The attackers stole more than 25 million rubles and ran to the cars they had left close by. But on the way to the cars they encountered a man who was walking his dog and Yegorov killed him.

Investigators have collected enough evidence and accordingly the case is forwarded for the indictment to be approved and further to the court to be tried on the merits.

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