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## **In Krasnodar Territory residents of Kushchevsky district charged with a number of crimes, including murder of Sergey Tsapok's brither, to appear in court**

Krasnodar Territory investigating bodies of the Russia's Investigative Committee have completed investigating a criminal case against residents of Kushchevsky district Vadim Palkin, Dmitry Devterov, Alexander Shal, Alexander Mamayev, Igor Pogosyan. Depending on the role of each one of them they are charged with setting up an organized stable group (gang) (part 1 of article 209), membership in a gang (part 2 of article 209), five episodes of illegal handling of firearms and ammunition committed by an organized group (part 3 of article 222), two episodes of banditry-related attempted murder in generally dangerous way by an organized group in connection with the official activity by the victim (part 3 of article 30, paragraphs "b, f, g, h" of part 2 of article 105), banditry-related murder of two persons committed by an organized group in connection with the official activity by the victims (paragraphs "a, b, g, h" of part 2 of article 105), two episodes of hooliganism with use of weapons committed by an organized group (part 2 of article 213 of the RF Criminal Code).

According to investigators, in December 2000, Vadim Palkin's father ceased his powers as Administration Head of municipal district Kushchevske district, and Boris Moskvich was elected the new head. Vadim Palkin intended by any means to make his father run a second term, which would also have lifted his personal authority and influence in the district. In this view, Vadim Palkin decided to kill the current Administration Head. With this purpose and to commit other crimes, in September-October 2001, Palkin set up an organized stable armed criminal group (gang), where he involved his relative Dmitry Devterev and sometime later Alexander Shal. Palkin promised members of the gang material welfare after his father became Head of Administration. The gang had a diverse range of firearms. Members of the gang and Pogosyan and Mamayev, who did not participated, for their criminal purposes repeatedly purchased firearms and ammunition, including grenades and pistols.

On 4 November 2001, the gangsters attempted to kill Head of Administration Boris Moskvich, and on 31 January 2002 killed him. At night of 31 May 2002 they faked attempted murder of Vadim Palkin's father in order to raise his rating when he would have become a candidate to Head of District Administration. In order to affect psychologically on the chairman of election committee for free election of Palkin's father a head of Administration, they blasted a grenade at the courtyard of his house. On 24 October 2004, the gang members killed Nikolay Tsapok and tried to kill one more member of Tsapkovskiye gang Vyacheslav Ryabtsev.

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Investigators found that it was Palkin's gang who killed Sergey Tsapok's brother. This particular murder was the motiv for a massacre in the Ametovs' house. Planning this slaughter Sergey Tsapok was motivated by this false cause of revenge, thinking that it was Ametov who had killed his brother. Killing Nikolay Tsapok and trying to kill Vyacheslav Ryabtsev the gang wanted to assert themselves as they stood lower in the hierarchy of gangs of Kushcheka. Palkin thought that members of Tsapok's gang did not respect him and demanded from him regular payments.

In 2005 the criminal group set up by Vadim Palkin broke up due to lack of financing and non-attaining the final object – Palkin's father was not appointed a new Head of District Administration.

Investigators have collected sufficient evidence and the case with the approved indictment is accordingly forwarded to the court to be tried on the merits.

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