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## **Three perpetrators and accomplice in kidnapping Lithuanian businessman Stanislovas Jucius put on trial in Kaliningrad**

The Kaliningrad Region investigating bodies of the Russia's Investigative Committee have finished investigating a criminal case against organizers, two perpetrators and an accomplice in a kidnapping of a Lithuanian businessman Stanislovas Jucius. There three local men aged 35, 36 and 40 and a 37-year-old man from the town of Khimki, Moscow Region. Depending on the role of each one, they are charged with organization of a contract murder (part 1 of article 30, part 3 of article 33, paragraph "h" of part 2 of article 105 of the RF Criminal Code), murder (part 1 of article 105), kidnapping (paragraph "a" of part 3 of article 126), complicity in a contract murder (part 1 of article 30, part 5 of article 33, paragraph "h" of part 2 of article 105), complicity in kidnapping (part 5 of article 33, paragraph "a" of part 3 of article 126), plotting illegal drug dealing (part 1 of article 30, paragraphs "a" and "d" of part 3 of article 228-1), illegal acquisition and storage of firearms and ammunition (part 2 of article 222).

A criminal case into the missing of Stanislovas Jucius was launched on 20 April 2007. The businessman's remains were found in the autumn 2011 in Bagrationovsk District of the region. According to investigators, citizen of Lithuania Stanislovas Jucius, 56, who had lived in Kaliningrad, was the CEO and a co-founder of OOO ROSLITSTROY (LLC), a co-founder of JUPOJA concern, located in the town of Sauliai in the Lithuanian Republic and the president of Lithuanian Businessmen's Club in the Kaliningrad Region. Not long before he went missing, ROSLITSTROY was engaged in building blocks of flats in Basseynaya Street and Aksakov Street in Kaliningrad and the building of a T.B. hospital.

According to investigators, the kidnapping of Stanislovas Jucius was carefully planned and organized by a person from a close circle of relations of Ivan Shevalye shot down in June 2011 in Gaydar Street in Kaliningrad. The reason was a conflict between the businessmen, because Shevalye was not happy that Jucius' company had built a block of flats near his mansion. The organizer of the crime coordinated the actions of the perpetrators in person.

In the morning of 18 April 2007, four accomplices traced Stanislovas Jucius down near his house in the Central district of Kaliningrad. Knowing that the businessman was going to his office not in his personal car, but by public transport, they followed him in a Mercedes to the bus stop in Kalinin Prospekt in Kaliningrad.

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Having waited till Stanislovas Jucius had left a fixed-run taxi and wanting to avoid public scandal, the perpetrators kidnapped the businessman by deceit. Having introduced themselves as law enforcement agents and showed forged IDs, they made the businessman sit in the car and took him to the woods not far from 32<sup>nd</sup> km of the A194 motorway Kaliningrad-Mamonovo. On their way one of the accomplices handcuffed the businessman and another one searched him, took his cell phone and took out a battery. The investigators believe that the perpetrators made a stop in the woods, took Stanislovas Jucius out of the car, while two of them held him Skosarev pointed a Makarov gun on him and forced to kneel, after that he shot no fewer than three times to his head and body, though the organizer of the crime had planned only kidnapping and murder threats in order to stop him from doing his business. The victim died on the spot. To conceal the crime the perpetrators buried the body not far from the crime scene. According to investigators on his arrival back in Kaliningrad the gunman received from the organizer 30 thousand rubles.

In addition, one of the accused, a 36-year-old resident of the town of Gusev in Kaliningrad Region is charged with the murder of a resident of Kaliningrad committed in February 2003. He waited his victim near his house and shot him dead in the head from a Makarov gun.

Three of the accused are also charged with an attempted hired murder of a Moscow resident for a fee of 10 thousand US dollars, committed in August 2011. The accused failed to finish their crime as they had mistaken the victim and attempted to kill a different person. Besides, one of the accomplices experienced a fit and the victim was not shot dead, but wounded. This circumstance allowed the law enforcement to apprehend the perpetrators. Three of the accused are also charged with illegal circulation of firearms and ammunition and illegal drug dealing – over 3 kilos of Marijuana, about 800 grams of cocaine, about 3 kilos of meth and other drugs –no less than 10 kilos in all.

During the investigation into the disappearance of Stanislovas Jucius investigators together with the police officers have made a lot of work, which ended up in solution of not only the kidnapping and murder of the Lithuanian businessman, but a number of other crimes. The psychological contact set up by an investigator with one of the accomplices allowed investigators to get information on the possible burial place of the body and to find the remains and identify them by running a DNA test.

In addition, several dozens of forensic expert examinations have been run during the probe, several hundreds of questionings, searches and other investigating operations. The criminal case has 39 volumes.

The investigators have gathered enough evidence and the case with the approved indictment has been forwarded to Kaliningrad Region court to be tried on the merits.

It should be reminded that on 27 August 2013 the court convicted Skosarev, the immediate perpetrator. Given the fact that he concluded a pre-trial cooperation deal with the investigation the court sentenced him to 13 years in prison.

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