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## **One of accomplices in contract murder of Chancellor of Saint-Petersburg State Service and Economics University Alexander Viktorov convicted**



Court has found the evidence gathered by the Northwestern Federal District Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee enough to convict Vyacheslav Makarov, an accomplice in the contract murder of Chancellor of Saint-Petersburg State Service and Economics University Alexander Viktorov. He was charged with crimes under parts 4 and 5 of article 33, paragraph "h" of part 2 of article 105 of the RF Penal Code (incitement and complicity in murder for hire) and parts 4 and 5 of article 33, part 1 of article 30, paragraph "h" of part 2 of article 105 (incitement and complicity in plotting a murder for hire).

The court and investigation have found that Vyachslav Makarov, Vitaly Kovalyov, and Andrey Yeliseyev received an order to kill Alexander Viktorov from a mediator. Having found the victim's residence place, during 2 weeks the hitmen studied his day schedule, traveling schemes and planned the crime carefully. Kovalyov got hold of a pistol with a silencer and cartridges to it. According to information of the investigation, the motive was commercial activity of the University headed by

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Viktorov. On 5 September 2012, Yelisseyev and Makarov arrived in the town of Vsevolzhsk in Leningrad Region to commit the murder with the gun given them by Kovalyov. Yelisseyev broke into sector No 6 in Yagodny Lane in Vsevolzhsk, where Viktorov lived, waited when the man got home and shot him no less than 5 times. The Chancellor died on the spot. After that Yelisseyev wounded Viktorov's wife so that she could not prevent him from fleeing the scene. After that Yelisseyev got into the car driven by Makarov and left.

Later in September 2012, during the probe the investigators found that Makarov and Kovalyov had been involved in plotting a murder of a man from Saint-Petersburg. However, they could not accomplish their criminal intention as were held by the law enforcement agents.

Makarov concluded a pre-trial cooperation deal with investigators and the criminal case against him was severed in a separate law suit.

The court sentenced Makarov to 9 years in prison and satisfied two actions on 1.6 million rubles of damages.

Criminal investigation against Kovalyov is ongoing. In October 2013 the court sentenced Yelisseyev to 13 years in a maximum-security penal colony.

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