## In Kurgan Region one of leaders of armed gang found guilty of banditry and murders

A court has found the evidence gathered by the Urals Federal District Investigation Directorate sufficient to convict Stanislav Cherepakha. He was found guilty of crimes under part 1 of article 209 of the RF Penal Code (banditry), paragraphs "a", "g" and "h" of part 2 of article 105 (murder), part 1 of article 30, paragraphs "a", "g" and "h" of part 2 of article 105 (plotting murder), part 3 of article 30, paragraphs "a", "g" and "h" of part 2 of article 105 (attempted murder).

Investigators and the court have found that in February 1996, in the town of Shadrinsk, Kurgan Region, Stanislav Cherepakha and other individuals set up a gang to attack citizens and organizations. The gang had submachine guns, grenades, pistols, sawn-off rifles and ammunitions.

The investigation discovered 29 crimes, including 18 murders, 7 robberies committed by the gang, the investigations in which were suspended. In addition, this investigation has revealed 8 crimes, including 3 murders, 2 robberies and banditry. Besides, in 1999 Cherepakha took part in organizing the killing of the gang leader, having decided that the assets the gang had obtained by their crimes had not been fairly distributed.

During the investigation Cherepakha concluded a cooperation deal with the investigators and gave details about the criminal activity.

The court sentenced Cherepakha to 23 years in a maximum-security penal colony.

In addition, there is an ongoing investigation against one more member of the gang and criminal cases against two more accused are being tried in court.

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