## In Chelyabinsk sentence passed upon Sergey Chashchin who headed division of interregional criminal community committing over 40 murders



A court has recognized the evidence gathered by Moscow Main Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee sufficient to convict Sergey Chashchin. He was found guilty of crimes under part 1 of article 209 of the RF Penal Code (creation of stable armed group with the purpose of attacking citizens and organizations and leadership of such a group), part 1 of article 210 (creation of a criminal community), paragraphs "a", "g" and "h" of part 2 of article 105 (murder of two or more people committed out of mercenary interests by a group of people in a previous concert aggravated by banditry – 2 counts), part 3 of article 30, paragraphs "a", "g" and "h" of part 2 of article 105 (attempted murder – 1 count).

The court and investigators found that Sergey Chashchin since 2002 headed a gang, set up by another person from former members of "turbazovskaya" gang. Under Chashchin's leadership the gang members in 2002 committed an attempted murder of former head of crime detection department of Miass Office of the Russian Interior Ministry in the Chelyabinsk Region Imerov. In 2005, they killed Paduchin, the CEO of ZAO PO Trek and in 2008, Sidorov, the CEO of OOO PO Nadezhda. The two latter killings were ordered by Viktor Ardabyevsky, who at the moment served as head of Miass town administration. The killer was Andrey Vershinin, who has been sentenced to a long prison term. The criminal case against Ralif Faizov, another accomplice in the attempted murder of Imerov and murders of Paduchin and Sidorov, is on a finishing stage. The main aim of the gang was to resolve their own interests by criminal methods. In addition, the gang committed murders-on-hire in order to gain control over successful enterprises comprising a large portion in the town's economy. It was found during the investigation that the gang was a division of the interregional criminal community headed by Dmitry Lesnyakov, sentenced in 2012 to 25 years in prison. Between 1999 and 2011 the gang members committed over 40 serious and especially serious crimes using firearms in the city of Moscow, the Moscow, Rostov and Chelyabinsk Regions and the Krasnodar Territory. Besides Lesnyakov the gang was headed by Dmitry Zavyalov internationally wanted for a long time. Zavyalov was detained in May 2014 in Spain and will be extradited in Russia in the near future.

As Sergey Chashchin concluded a pretrial cooperation deal, the criminal case against him was severed in a separate law suit. In all, there are 20 people prosecuted in the said criminal case, 9 of whom have been sentenced to different prison terms, 6 are wanted, and investigations are ongoing against 15. The criminal case against Viktor Ardabyevsky and Ralif Faizov is on a finishing stage, at present the accused and their lawyers are studying the files.

The court has sentenced Chashchin to 13 years to be served in a maximum-security prison.

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