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## **Preliminary hearing of case against gangsters charged with killing businessmen started in Rostov-on-Don**



A preliminary hearing of a criminal case against former deputy of the Krasnodar Territory Legislative Assembly Sergey Zirinov, Yevgeny Aleksandrovich, Karnik Aslanyan, Eduard Paladyan, Amar Suloyev, Anastas Tilgerov has started today in North Caucasian District Military Court in Rostov-on-Don. Depending on the role of each one of them they are charged with crimes under parts 1-3 of article 209 of the RF Penal Code (banditry), paragraphs “a”, “f”, “g”, “h”, “j” of part 2 of article 105 (murder of two or more people committed out of mercenary motives by gang), part 3 of article 30, paragraphs “a”, “f”, “g”, “h”, “j” of part 2 of article 105 (attempted murder), parts 1 and 2 of article 209, article 222 (illegal circulation of firearms).

According to investigators, in 1999, Sergey Zirinov and Ambartsum Eyriyan set up a criminal group which at different time was joined by a court official Yevgeny Aleksandrovich, ex-police officer Igor Nekhayenko, Karnik Aslanyan, Eduard Paladyan, Amar Suloyev, Anastas Tilgerov, as well as

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Dmitry Sapozhnikov and Andrey Miroshnikov. Before 2013, in Krasnodar Territory members of the gang killed CEO of ZAO Sanatorium Malaya Bukhta and his wife, CEO of OOO Children Goods, attempted to kill deputy ataman of Anapa City Cossack Community and killed his driver.

The group led by Zirinov and Eyriyan was a typical gang whose members planned their crimes carefully and distributed the roles in them. They used guns and disguise. The gang had a considerable part of business in Anapa under their control and hardly anybody thought of resist them. Those who tried met their sad ends. CEO of ZAO Sanatorium Malaya Bukhta Vitaly Sadovnichy was killed for stopping following Zirinov's orders. After his death the shares of sanatorium were bought very quickly, then handed over to a person controlled by Zirinov and then resold. At some point Zirinov was so sure that he could get away with all that, that he was actually present at such executions of capital sentences he personally passed. During the murder of Sadovnichy and his wife he personally gave the killers instructions as to how it had to be done.

The Major Department of the Russia's Investigative Committee has enough evidence so the criminal case against 6 gangsters with the approved indictment has been sent to court to be tried on the merits.

Earlier a court sentenced Miroshnikov and Sapozhnikov, who had cooperated with investigators, to 13 and 16 years in prison respectively.

At present measures are being taken to find and detain Eyriyan and Nekhayenko who are wanted around the world. In addition, the investigators are checking the information on involvement of gangsters to other crimes.

Head of Media Relations V.I. Markin

*15 July 2015*

*Page address:* <https://en.sledcom.ru/news/item/948480>