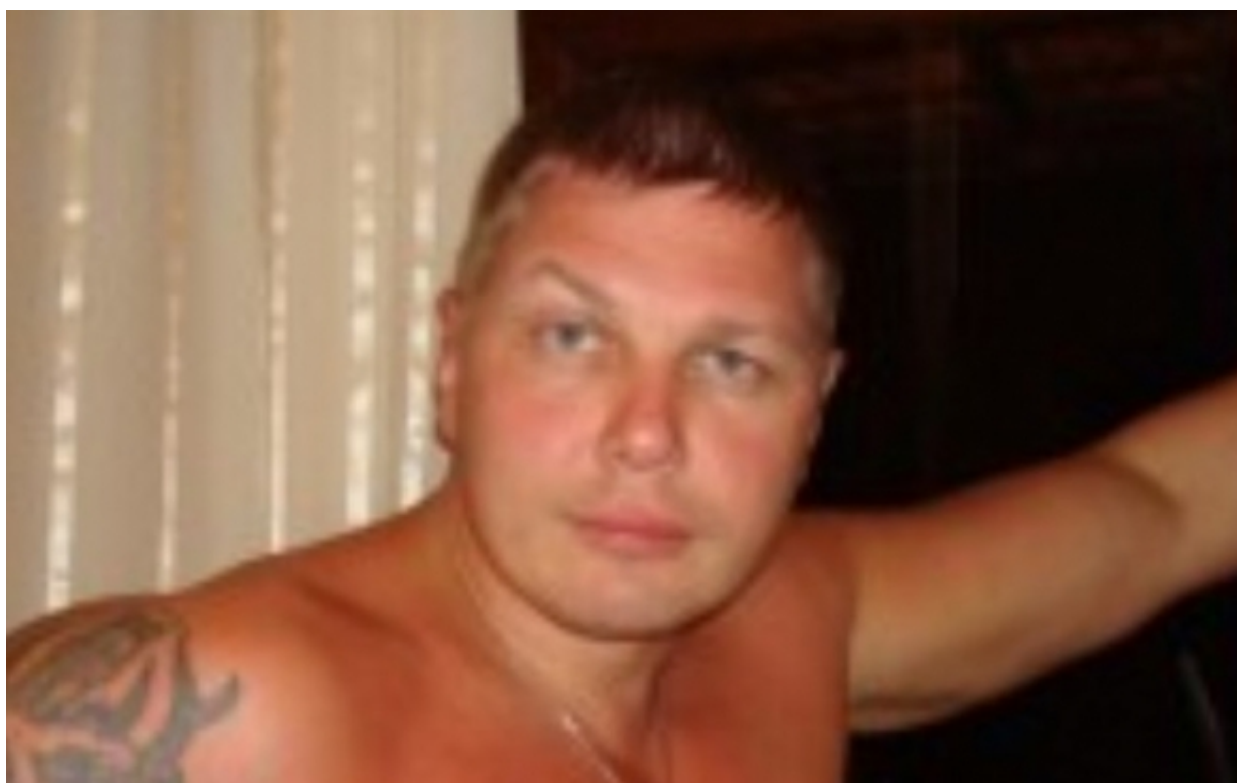

Mikhail Krishyan charged with contract murders, hostile takeovers and other felonies in absentia extradited from Estonia to Saint-Petersburg



The Saint-Petersburg Main Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee continues investigation against Deputy CEO of OOO Status Mikhail Krishyan, previously convicted and charged with crimes under part 3 of article 33, paragraph "h" of part 2 of article 105, part 3 of article 33, paragraph "a" of part 3 of article 111, part 1 of article 222 of the RF Penal Code (organization of a contract murder, deliberate infliction of grievous bodily harm, illegal circulation of firearms).

According to investigators, in 2010, Kirshyan organized the beating of Mikhail Karachev, the owner of Pulkovo-3 shopping mall. Krishyan hired Denis Mikhailov who also hired Vadim Sorokin. After that, in April 2010, Viktor Shishkin told Mikhailov where the victim lived and what car he had. At night of 7 May 2010, near a house of Blagodatnaya street, Sorokin and Ruslan Aksyanov attacked Karachev and beat him up heard. Aksyanov stabbed the victim, who later that day died in hospital.

In addition, according to the investigators, in October 2010, Krishyan offered Denis Mikhailov 15 thousand US dollars for finding a killer to murder a businessman. Mikhailov hired Sorokin who agreed to kill the victim for 10 thousand US dollars Mikhailov offered to him. In the morning of 29 October 2010, near a house in 2nd Zhirnovskaya street where the victim lived, Sorokin ambushed the latter and shot him 5 times in the head and torso. The victim died at the scene. In March 2011, when investigators checked if Krishyan was involved in that crime, they found a Beretta gun during a search in his flat. Krishyan tried to get rid of the gun by throwing it out of window together with cartridges. He was apprehended, however, a court refused to remand him in custody, but released him on bail of 2 million rubles. Later Krishyan escaped and was wanted around the world ever since.

Earlier, Sorokin, Mikhailov and Shishkin were sentenced to different terms in jail. Aksyanov died in May 2010.

Krishyan is also charged with crimes under part 4 of article 159, part 3 of article 127 of the RF Penal Code (fraud, illegal deprivation of freedom). According to investigators, he together with Mikhail Klimeshov, Mikhail Roginsky who are wanted and other 6 individuals, who were convicted, for the purpose of hostile takeover of a company, showed forged documents stating that the management of the company had been replaced and this way got the ownership of the company, after that in September 2010, with the support of private security guards they took over the buildings of the company. This way, they stole over 21 million rubles worth of property.

On 23 September 2015, Krishyan, who had been detained in Estonia, was extradited to Saint-Petersburg for investigation and to be remanded in custody. The investigation is ongoing.

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