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Teacher Held in Ax Deaths

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Samara police have detained a 26-year-old teacher at a local college who is suspected of killing several women with an ax on the streets, Komsomolskaya Pravda reported Friday.

Mikhail Tarabardin, a computer science teacher with a doctorate degree, was detained Tuesday carrying a bloodied ax in his briefcase not far from a murder site in Samara, investigators said, adding that he was recognized by witnesses.

An Investigative Committee source said Tarabardin was linked to two similar crimes in Samara. He did not elaborate. The teacher refused to speak to police, the report said.

(MT)

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