

Russian ‘Thief-in-Law’ Shot Dead in Moscow Gym

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Ali Heydarov **Screenshot YouTube**

Ali Heydarov, a Russian “thief-in-law” known as Albert Ryzhiy, was shot dead in a northwest Moscow gym Monday afternoon, Interfax [reported](#).

“Thief-in-law” is a Russian term referring to powerful members of the criminal underworld.

Security camera footage [published](#) by the 47news.ru news website shows Heydarov using an elliptical as an unknown man enters the gym, shoots at him and then leaves.

Heydarov died at the scene, Interfax reported.

Embed:

The Moscow department of Russia's Investigative Committee [said](#) it has opened a criminal case into murder and illegal arms trafficking following the incident. It did not specify the victim's name.

A native of Ganja, Azerbaijan, Heydarov began his criminal career in Russia's Arkhangelsk region in the mid-1990s, carrying out robberies and thefts as part of an organized criminal group. According to Interfax, he later joined the criminal clan of influential "thief-in-law" Aslan Usoyan ("Ded Hasan"), who himself was shot and killed in central Moscow in 2013.

In 2016, a St. Petersburg court sentenced Heydarov to seven years in prison for extortion. According to the Baza Telegram channel, he was the [first](#) convicted "thief-in-law" to be released on parole when he was released last summer.

The St. Petersburg-based Fontanka.ru news website [reported](#) that there had been three previous attempts on Heydarov's life.

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