NOTION AND CRIMINALISTIC CLASSIFICATION OF SERIAL MURDERS

From ancient times murder is believed to be the most grievous offense that violates generally recognized principles of society. Death Investigation is an art that is never mastered. As analysis of criminal case shows, there are a lot of mistakes that investigators admitted performing their duties in criminal prosecution. During the entire death investigation, from initial call to final courtroom testimony, the way things are done is as important as what is done.

Because that very kind of murder investigation is the most complicated in all stages, notion of «serial murders», classification of serial murders based on motive and methods would be discovered in the article as basic disposition. In spite of well-known researchers’ decisions problems of notion of «serial murders» and classification of serial murders aren’t examined in full-scale.

There is no common notion of «serial murders». We think that serial murders could be defined as cumulative murders (three and more) that were committed by certain person (body of men) in consecutive order and terms. These offenses are consolidated by motive, modus operandi.

Significance of serial murders’ classification implicates in analysis of data array with following grouping under certain signs and proposition of practical advices. To our mind serial murders’ classification can be in following way:

- Sexual motivated serial murders. The main sense consists in satisfaction of pathological sexual necessity;
- Hedonistic motivated serial murders. Murder is committed for murder as an act of killing human being;
- Serial murders with self-affirmation and predominance motives.
- Serial murders with vengeance and replacement motives.
- Serial murders with missionary motives. The main sense consists in purification of society.

Also, serial murders can be classified depend on modus operandi. There are two groups:

- Well-planed offences or murders committed by slayer- hunter. He (or she) always planes every act, perform a spadework;
- Spontaneous murders. They are characterized by sudden spilling out of negative energy and sneak attack.

As a conclusion we’d like to notice that appointed classification can be foundation for methodology of serial murders’ investigation.