

Sample Interview Questions

Joseph D. Serio, Author

Investigating the Russian Mafia

It's not every day we hear a story like yours. How did you come to work in the Organized Crime Control Department of the Soviet police? (30 sec)

You were the director of the Moscow office of a global investigation firm. What did that entail? A job like that must have had some scary moments.... (60 sec)

You have a new book out called *Investigating the Russian Mafia*. The 'mafia' is a lot of things to a lot of people. What does it mean to Russians? (60 sec)

In many ways it seems that the Mafia appeared almost spontaneously at the end of the Soviet Union. Where did they come from? (45 sec)

We heard a lot about the Russian mafia over in Russia in the 1990s and a few big stories here in the States, but that was about it. What's become of the Russian mafia? (60 sec)

Brighton Beach in New York City is known for its large Russian population and the presence of organized crime groups there. Is this a phenomenon that has moved beyond New York? (30 sec)

What are Russian crime groups into? How is it affecting the average American? (30 sec)

Earlier this year the Russian mafia movie *Eastern Promises* was up for an Academy Award. In the movie, one of the main characters, played by Viggo Mortensen, rose up to become a Thief, a kind of Russian godfather. Who are these guys? (60 sec)

Do you perceive that the Russian Mafia is any more aggressive or dangerous than any of the Mafioso here in this country or any of the Asian Mafia types like the Japanese Yakuza or the Chinese Triads? (30 sec)

Does the Russian Mafia traditionally team up with other crime groups of other cultures to further their cause? (30 sec)