

Makarenko N.K. New approaches to the definition of professional crime. The article analyzes modern understanding of professional crime. It is substantiated that it represents a specific criminal phenomenon requiring a specific response to it. The signs of professional crime are analyzed and the most optimal understanding of professional crime is substantiated. The above results of the research can be used in practical activities of law enforcement agencies. The article is intended for scientific and practical workers in the field of combating crime, as well as all those interested in this topic.

It has been concluded that professional crime is a relatively closed, socially dangerous subsystem with a number of features and characteristics.

Modern criminological understanding and the content of professional crime are somewhat modified-in comparison with the traditional one. Professional crime is a set of crimes committed by criminals of a special type who have chosen to commit crimes as the main type of activity and sources of income, specializing in the systematic commission of homogeneous types of crimes using special skills and knowledge and seeking consolidation with their own like criminal subculture.

The above features of criminal professionalism are transformed into specific functions by which professional criminals adapt to certain social circumstances. This conclusion is confirmed by the age-old existence of certain categories of professional criminals, their stratification and the stability of qualifications.

Keywords: *professional crime, criminal specialization, criminal qualification, criminal income, subculture, criminal is a professional.*