

Summary of the doctoral dissertation entitled “Crime of real estate burglary in a forensic context”

The main research goal of the thesis is to analyze the crime of real estate burglary in a forensic context. The achievement of the above-mentioned goal was possible thanks to file research. They included 141 files court cases that were conducted by 9 different district courts located falls within the territorial jurisdiction of the District Court in Katowice and the District Court in Sosnowiec. The files that were the subject of the research concerned burglary crimes to properties that were committed in the years 2018 - 2022. The research has been conducted using a quantitative research method and implemented using a questionnaire file research, a template of which is attached to the thesis.

The work consists of a theoretical and empirical part. Theoretical part, preceded by an introduction, consists of 4 chapters. Chapter 1 discusses the definition of the crime of burglary and analyzed how it changed over the years. Additionally, it presents statistical data showing the scale of this phenomenon. Chapter 2 of the thesis is devoted to discussing the crime of burglary in substantive law. First and foremost, it analyzes the signs of this act, the issue of a "minor offense" and the possibility of a convergence of regulations. Additionally, the issue of the threat of punishment and penalty measures was raised. Chapter three constitutes the crime of burglary in criminal terms. Information regarding the first information about the crime was discussed, the perpetrator's *modus operandi*, a typical forensic, procedural and operational proceedings were also indicated and described. Particular attention was paid to expert witness evidence. In the last chapter of the theoretical part, the topic of combating burglary was discussed. It indicates both state units dealing with counteracting and combating this crime and describing the activities of private entities. Additionally it was indicated what forms of property protection are currently available on the security industry market.

The empirical part of the work also consists of 4 chapters. Chapter 5 discusses the research method used. The following general questions were raised:

1. What are the tactical operation methods of a perpetrator of a real estate burglary?
2. What are the technical operation methods of a perpetrator of a real estate burglary?
3. Who is the perpetrator of a real estate burglary?
4. What forensic and procedural proceedings as well as operational and reconnaissance proceedings are carried out in real estate burglary cases?

At the same time, a number of detailed research questions were asked, which constitute the development of general questions. The rest of the chapter discusses and justifies the selection of the research sample, the selected research method was described and the number of files covered by the research was indicated. The result of quantitative research, in graphic form, along with the author's commentary, was placed in chapter 6 of the dissertation. The next chapter contains a description of sample cases that occurred subject of research. These cases were selected to present as different as possible facts and models of operation of the parties of the preparatory proceedings. The last chapter contains a discussion of the research results. Additionally, it includes the author's postulates, which may be a contribution to a discussion on methods more effectively combating the crime of theft and burglary into real estate.

In conclusion, it should be noted that, based on the research conducted, it was successful establish that there is no single *modus operandi* of perpetrators of real estate burglary. Modern burglars operate in different ways and use different methods tools. Most often, however, they act without a plan, using physical or simple force tools, and the factor that favors committing this type of crimes is poor quality of security measures used. The profile of a typical contemporary burglar was constructed, it is a man, aged 31-32, with Polish citizenship. His

place of residence is on average approximately 5 kilometers away from the place of committing the crime. He is single and has no children. He has primary, secondary or professional education and he is unemployed. His health is good and he has no addictions. Motivation for committing a burglary is his desire to get rich. At the time he had a previous criminal record. A specific model of operation of preparatory proceedings parties was also observed. Typical forensic and procedural as well as operational and reconnaissance proceedings carried out in cases of burglary into real estate have been defined and a catalog of the most frequently secured forensic traces was created. It was indicated that the most effective form of preventing burglary into real estate is investing in high-quality security and additional security, as well as raising public awareness of the discussed topic .