
In Nizhny Novgorod, Oleg Belov gets life for killing his mother, wife and six children



A court has recognized the evidence gathered by the Central Administration of the Investigative Committee sufficient to convict Oleg Belov. He was found guilty of killing his mother, wife and six small children and the threat to use violence against representative of authority (paragraphs “a”, “c”, “e” and “j” of part 2 of article 105 of the RF Penal Code and part 1 of article 318).

The court and investigators have revealed that on 26 July 2015, at 7:13 AM, Belov stabbed his wife to death with a knife she had given him as a present and then killed his six children. Then Belov took measures to hide the crime by dismembering the bodies and putting them in polymeric bags to bury them later.

On 3 August 2015, after having a phone conversation with an officer of police station of the town of Kovrov, Vladimir Region, where Belov’s mother-in-law had called worried that she hadn’t heard from her daughter for a long time, Belov boarded a commuter train and headed for the town of Gorokhovets in Vladimir Region and killed his mother thinking that she might report him.

On 4 August, the police found Belov on his wife’s property in the town of Kovrov, Vladimir Region.

During the initial investigation the accused had a forensic psychiatric examination which showed that he suffered from a mental disorder which did not rule out sanity therefore he is absolutely liable for his crimes. This gives the court the right to sentence Belov.

The court has sentenced Belov to life imprisonment to be served in a special-security correctional facility.

I would like to note that there were different preconditions for the tragedy that happened in the Belovs family. Of course, there were some personal problems between the spouses which we will not discuss publicly because of both ethics and current laws. But it was absolutely obvious that lack of reaction of the authorities to those personal problems had some heavy influence on the situation. It was hardly possible to predict Belov's actions considering the opinion the people around him had of him. He was fully aware about what was happening, despite his mental disorder. This was confirmed by the experts who stated in their conclusion that his disorder was not contrary to sanity. So if Belov had realized and understood that he would have to answer for his aggression to his family, if he had seen that law-enforcement authorities had paid attention to the problem, I think that many things could have been different, and the tragedy might even have been avoided. But with no reaction from the police, he was sure that he would get away with it.

There are ongoing investigations against officials of Nizhny Novgorod District administration and police department No 5, whose negligence had contributed to Belov's crimes.

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