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## **In Tver, probe launched in breaches of heating season preparation**



The Tver Region Office of the Investigative Committee is investigating a criminal case opened against CEO of building management company OOO Tver Energy Complex Yan Gorelov and manager of OOO Tver Generation Sergei Gorkhov. They are charged with providing unsafe services of supplying heat and hot water to residents of the city of Tver (Part 2, time “a” of Article 238 of the RF Penal Code).

According to investigators, Gorelov and Gorokhov while managing OOO Tver Generation which is a single heat supply company in the city, failed to meet the requirements laid out in the order of the RF Energy Ministry to run performance tests and planned repairs of heating systems while preparing them for the winter heating season. In 2015-2016, there were breaks in heating mains in Zavolzhsky, Central and Moskovsky districts of the city which led to disruptions in hot water and heating supply. As a result, the temperature in houses, hospitals, schools and other public buildings fell below 18 degree Celsius, a standard temperature under sanitary rules.

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On 20 September, Gorelov and Gorokhov were detained and were arrested today following a request of investigators.

The short-sighted policy of the said managers led to an accident that happened on 14 September 2016. An 8-year-old girl went for a walk to end up in a total tragedy. The girl fell in a heating main located near her house and only by miracle managed to get from there and walk home. She was taken to a hospital with third degree thermal burns (40-50% of skin) and was put into a medically induced coma immediately. At present the girl is in extremely grave condition.

The investigators have revealed that the site was not properly fenced which led to the girl's injuries. The above mentioned OOO Tver Generation had been changing the pipes to get them ready to the heating season. The Tver Region Office of the Investigative Committee opened a case into a crime under Part 2, item "c" of Article 238 of the RF Penal Code (providing services that do not meet safety standards). The two cases have been joined together to form a single lawsuit.

The employees of the company and their superiors should have understood that by providing substandard services and their disregard of elementary safety codes they created a threat to health and lives of Tver residents, including the most helpless ones. The investigators are going to identify a circle of people, including officials involved in the crime and their true motives, including mercenary interests of managers of companies who as usual wanted to save some money on people.

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