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## **In Bashkortostan, local resident to stand trial for unsafe services and fire safety breach killing 12 people**



The Bashkortostan Office of the Investigative Committee has finished criminal proceedings against Aleksei Chalykh, a 30-year-old man from the town of Ufa, charged with providing unsafe services entailing death of two or more people under Part 3 of Article 238 and fire safety breach entailing death of two or more people under Part 3 of Article 219 of the RF Criminal Code.

According to investigators, while being a co-founder and president of Sodeistviye Center of Social Adaptation, an interregional charity NGO, from January 2015 to March 2016, concluded residential rent contracts with owners on behalf of those who were taking social adaptation course in his center, in order to conceal the activity of the organization from inspectorates. A residential building located at No 6, Tukayev Street in the town of Sterlitamak he rented was not fitted with fire safety equipment. Chalykh violated fire safety requirements when he didn't equip the house properly, though he took 30% of the money made by the center's inmates from doing different kinds of

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unqualified work.

The house caught a fire on the night of 15 March 2016. 12 people who were taking the social adaptation course were killed. The people had been unable to evacuate the house because there were no fire alarms, no individual protection equipment, the front door could be opened only with the key and there was no fire escape. The victims died of smoke intoxication.

There are 14 files in the case, more than 30 people were questioned and almost 20 expert examinations were run.

The investigations have enough evidence, so the criminal case with the signed indictment has been referred to court.

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