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## **In Novosibirsk Region, probe launched into rendering unsafe services reported by media**



The Novosibirsk Regional Investigations Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation has launched a criminal investigation under Paragraph B of Part 2 of Article 238 of the Criminal Code of Russia (rendering services that fail to meet the requirements to safety of consumers' life and health) following a comprehensive and impartial probe into the circumstances of the housing rights violation of a family living in Kirovsky District of Novosibirsk reported by a federal TV channel.

The TV channel explained that the disadvantaged family with a severely ill child was forced to live in a substandard shack, and one of the parents had recently started fighting cancer. Lately, the ceiling of one of the shack's rooms collapsed; the tenants have propped it with a wooden bar. The premise is damp at all times; there are holes in the walls and multiple foci of mold. The shack has never been renovated, which is why the tenants worry about their lives. Nevertheless, local authorities have refused to recognize the emergency state of the house and to relocate the residents into proper premises. The only alternative option presented to the family is an apartment in a neighboring house, the state of which is very similar to the previous one. At the same time, the disadvantaged family has the right to be granted a new apartment but has not been included in the waiting list for proper housing still.

As part of the criminal inquiry, investigators seized documents of interest for the investigation from the Kirovsky District Administration; employees of the public utility company and the district Administration are being interrogated as witnesses; other investigative actions aimed to establish all

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circumstances are in progress.

The Chairman of the Investigative Committee of Russia instructed the Central Office to supervise the process and the results of the investigation.

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