A criminal investigation into the death of three people as a result of an avalanche in Norilsk completed in the Krasnoyarsk Region



The Main Investigative Department of the Investigative Committee of Russia for the Krasnoyarsk Region and the Republic of Khakassia finished investigation of a probe into seven officers of Norilsk city in Krasnoyarsk Region. The former head of the Civil Defense and Emergency Situations Department, four members of the unified emergency dispatch service and two members of the property department are charged with committing a crime under Part 3 Article 293 of the Criminal Code (negligence resulting in a substantial violation of the rights and lawful interests of citizens, which resulted in infliction by negligence serious harm to human health and death of two or more persons).

According to investigators, the former head of the Civil Defense and Emergency Situations Department of Norilsk and four employees of the single duty dispatch service of Norilsk, receiving information about the danger of avalanches in the period from December 31, 2020 to January 08, 2021, did not warn residents of Norilsk, including vacationers in country houses in the Mount Otdelnaya in Talnakh region of Norilsk, Krasnoyarsk region.

On January 08, 2021 an avalanche fell from the mountainside, as a result of which 6 people were injured, 3 of whom - a 45-year-old man, his 38-year-old wife and their 1.5-year-old child died as a

result of hypothermia, 14-year-old son of the victims was caused grave damage to health, two residents of Norilsk - a man and a woman - were injured.

In addition, it was established that the three deceased family members and the injured minor child were living in the country house illegally, which was known to the employees of the property department of the Norilsk city administration. Knowing that the victims were illegally residing in their country house, the defendants failed to take steps to demolish and remove their house, reflecting in verification documents knowingly false information about the absence of the victims' house on the grounds of Mount Separate.

Currently, the criminal case was sent for approval of the indictment and subsequent transfer to court.

Upon instruction of the Chairman of the Investigative Committee of Russia the investigation of the criminal case is under supervision of the Central Office of the Committee.

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