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**By order of the Chairman of the Investigative Committee of Russia, a criminal case is launched on the construction of low-quality housing for orphans in Belgorodskaya oblast**



The investigating authorities of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation for Belgorodskaya oblast, in pursuance of the order by Mr. A.I. Bastrykin, Chairman of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation, a criminal investigation was launched on the violation of the rights and legitimate interests of orphans, children left without parental care, and persons of similar category in provision of residential premises on the grounds of a crime prescribed in Part 1, Article 293 of the Criminal Code RF (negligence).

In the Shebekino city, the residential buildings were built for orphans, children left without parental care, who consider them unsuitable for living. The tenants complain that the roofs leak in the houses, there is constant dampness, which causes mold, doors can't be closed due to dampness, in some houses there are cracks between the walls and the floor screed, the installed shower trays are unsafe for use, and the finishing elements are of inadequate quality.

According to investigators, in October 2021, a municipal contract was concluded between the administration of the Shebekinsky urban district and StroyGarant LLC for the construction of residential buildings intended for the residence of the mentioned above category of citizens. A total of 21 houses were built. Between October and December 2021, the Officials of the Shebekinsky

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urban district Administration carried out improper performance of their duties regarding the acceptance of residential buildings under the municipal contract in the presence of violations and defects made during the construction and finishing works. This led to a significant violation of the rights and legitimate interests of orphans, children left without parental care, expressed in the provision of residential premises that do not comply with building codes, rules and state standards.

At present, a construction and technical expertise is being carried out within a criminal investigation to verify the compliance of the work performed with the design and estimate documentation, identifying shortcomings in the construction work and determining the amount of damage caused. Investigative actions are being carried out aimed at collecting and securing evidence in a criminal case, including the identification of persons to be charged as accused. During the investigation, a legal assessment will be given to the actions (inaction) of the Officials who allowed the allocation of a socially unprotected category of citizens being housed in unsuitable for living habitation.

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