
A verdict is adjudicated in a criminal case on the death of children in a fire in the "Kholdomi" camp in Khabarovsk krai



Evidence collected by the Main Investigative Directorate of the Russian Investigative Committee was recognized by the court as sufficient to pass a sentence on the director of Extreme Service LLC, Mr. Vitaly Burlakov, the director of the Holdomi camp, Mr. Maxim Kuznetsov, and the Head of the Regional Directorate of the Russian Emergencies Ministry, Mr. Eduard Novgorodtsev. Mr. Burlakov and Mr. Kuznetsov were found guilty of committing a crime prescribed in Part 3, Article 238 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (providing services that do not meet safety requirements), Mr. Novgorodtsev was found guilty in accordance with Part 3, Article 293 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (negligent homicide of two or more persons).

According to the investigation, in 2019, the director of Extreme Service LLC, Mr. Vitaly Burlakov, and the director of the Holdomi camp, Mr. Maxim Kuznetsov, after organizing the vacation rest of the children, where some of kids were placed in canvas tents equipped with power supply and

heating systems with technical violations fire safety. Malfunctions in the operation of these systems led to a fire, as a result of which four juveniles died, and six more minors received burns of varying severity.

In early July 2019, the Head of the regional directorate of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of Russia, Mr. Eduard Novgorodtsev, identified these violations, but did not take measures to eliminate them by the camp management.

During the investigation, various examinations were carried out, including such as fire-technical and psychological examinations, which, together with the results of other investigative actions, made it possible to detect the circumstances of the incident.

By the verdict, Mr. Burlakov was sentenced to imprisonment for 9 years with deprivation of the right to hold positions related to the upbringing of juveniles for a period of 3 years, Mr. Kuznetsov was sentenced to 8 years in prison with deprivation of the right to hold positions related to the upbringing of juveniles for a period of 3 years, Mr. Novgorodtsev was sentenced to 4 years in prison with deprivation of the right to hold positions in public authorities for a period of 3 years. They will serve their sentence in a general regime penal colony.

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