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## **Criminal proceedings launched in crash of An-2 carrying passengers in Khanty-Mansi Autonomous District**



The Urals Transport Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee has initiated a criminal case over a crash of An-2 in Sovetsky district of the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous District. The Plane was carrying 10 passengers. The case was started over signs of a crime under part 1 of article 263 of the RF Criminal Case (Violation of the rules for traffic safety and operation of air transport inflicting grave damage).

According to investigators, on 25 November 2012, around 10:11 a.m., Moscow time, the airplane An-2 piloted by a pilot of aviation club Maestro took off for parachute jumping. There were 2 crew members and 8 passengers aboard the plane. At the altitude of about 100 meters the engine thrust fell. The pilot decided to make an emergency landing. During the U-turn the engine failed and the plane hard-landed outside the runway. After the crash the plane caught fire. 8 people aboard,

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including the pilot, were delivered to Yugorsky central district hospital with different injuries. The accident inflicted damage of 3 million rubles to the owner of the aircraft.

At present the examination of the crash scene and the airport are completed. The injured and the staff of the aviation club are being interrogated. It has been found that the pilot of the plane has extensive length of piloting experience, about 30 years, the total flying time on An-2 is about 10 thousand hours.

Medical forensic expert examinations have been assigned to establish the gravity of injuries inflicted on the victims. In addition, chemical expert examinations have been assigned to study the fuel and oil from the filling station. Today investigators are planning additional examination of the crash scene with the specialists in the area of airplanes.

At present investigating operations are under way to establish all the circumstances of the accident. Investigation is to be continued.

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