
In Voronezh CEO of organization charged with providing services not meeting safety standards entailing death of child by negligence



Voronezh Region investigating bodies of the Russia’s Investigative Committee have charged 46-year-old CEO of the organization that operates Fishka aquapark with a crime under paragraphs “b” and “c” of part 2 of article 238 of the RF Penal Code (providing services that do not meet life and health safety standards concerning services meant for children under 6 years of age entailing death of a person by negligence).

Investigators have revealed that the CEO of the organization that operated Fishka aquapark located in Ostuzhev street in the city of Voronezh allowed violations in providing safety of clients of the aquapark. He failed to organize development and approval of local regulations which would have efficiently ensured safety of the clients (the regulations the facility did have contradicted the law and even if followed did not prevented threat to lives and health of clients). In addition, the clients were not provided with enough number of life jackets (a forensic inquiry found those life jackets non-

serviceable). Furthermore the number of lifeguards as well as their qualifications did not meet necessary requirements. The instructors worked under oral agreement, without any written labor contracts, therefore did not have any responsibility. This way, on 22 August 2014, there were only two lifeguards ensuring safety in Fishka aquapark: one of them was underage and another a 20-year-old man a 3rd group invalid.

On 22 August 2014, at about 7:30 PM, a married couple with children aged 2, 4 and 13 years arrived at the aquapark. The parents were not instructed that children under 14 were forbidden to use “lazy swimming pool” or to be near it. They were also not familiarized the rules of using the attractions as there were no such rules in the regulations of Fishka aquapark or at the attraction. Besides, the parents failed to provide their 4-year-old child with a life jacket, as there were not enough of them. At 8:17 PM, the 4-year-old came to the entrance to the 140-cm-long swimming pool, saw a rubber ring floating there and sat on it. The children floated away from the edge of the pool, fell from the rubber ring and drowned.

At present investigators of the regional Investigative Committee are carrying out a number of necessary investigative operations to reveal all the circumstances of the crime and consolidate the evidence. The investigation is ongoing.

13 February 2015

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