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## Charges pressed against two more defendants in Admiral fire case



The Russia's Investigative Committee continues establishing circumstances of the fire that happened at the Admiral shopping center and the guilt of everyone involved in the tragedy. As it was assumed there was a whole chain of violations that led to such grave consequences. We have identified a number of people responsible for fire safety breaches and those among fire control authorities who deliberately shut their eyes to those violations.

Tatarstan investigating bodies of the Russia's Investigative Committee have charged residents of Mari-El Nail Gabdulkhayev, 22 and Firdinat Uldanov, 49, with a crime under part 3 of article 216 of the RF Penal Code (violation of safety rules during work, entailing death of 2 or more people by negligence).

According to investigators, on the day of the fire three workers, including two accused, following instructions of the market administration were dampproofing the roof of the Admiral shopping center using a gas tank and a burner. The investigators believe that the fire was caused by their actions.

The men have not pled guilty. Following a request filed by the investigators a court has ruled to place

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them in custody pending trial.

At present investigative operations are underway to find out all the circumstances of the crime. Over 470 victims and over 200 witnesses have been questioned. The investigation is ongoing.

Earlier CEO of OAO Investment Construction Company and ZAO Facility Manager AS Management Robert Khayrullin has been charged with crimes under part 3 of article 219 of the RF Penal Code (violation of fire safety, entailing death of two or more people by negligence), part 2 of article 201 (abuse of office entailing grave consequences), part 1 of article 327 (forgery of an ID or any other official entitling document or such dispensing from duties for the purpose of using such a document or selling it), part 3 of article 238 (providing work or services not meeting life or health safety standards entailing death of two or more people by negligence).

Besides CEO of OOO Zarya – the leaseholder of the Admiral shopping center Guseyn Gakhramanov, 30 and his deputy Nikolai Kayekin, 34, have also been charged with crime under part 3 of article 219 of the RF Penal Code (violation of fire safety, entailing death of two or more people by negligence).

The investigation is ongoing. At present there are 11 people being prosecuted. The investigators think it possible for the circle of the defendants to widen and we are sure that all those responsible for the tragedy will not escape justice. This has to be a lesson and warning for all businessmen who in their chase after profits disregard safety measures and for officials who voluntarily and not let that happen. All of them have to realize a tragedy a seemingly unimportant violation of rules may lead to. And for that they will have to answer to the fullest extent of the law.

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