

Nightclub Fire Trial Begins

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A Perm district court opened hearings Monday into a fire at the Khromaya Loshad nightclub that killed 156 in December, Interfax reported.

Eight officials and members of the club's staff are charged with negligence and fire safety violations that led to the fire. Prosecutors asked to extend the detention of five suspects for six more months, a move that the defendants appealed. The court was to rule on the issue Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Spain promised to extradite the ninth suspect in the case, the club's co-owner Konstantin Mrykhin, "in the nearest future," a spokesman for the Investigative Committee said Monday. Mrykhin was detained in Spain last month.

(MT)

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